

Hafa Adai!

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## OPINION METER

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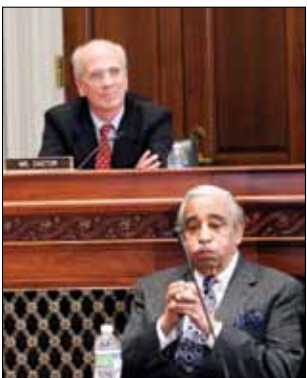
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REPORTER

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## Senate kills marijuana bill

The Senate rejected yesterday a controversial House bill that seeks to legalize marijuana in the CNMI for medical and recreational use, but the bill's author said he plans to introduce a separate "medical marijuana" legislation.

House Bill 17-47 was killed on a 7-0 vote during a Senate session held at the Northern Marianas College campus on Rota yesterday afternoon.

Sen. Luis Crisostimo (D-Saipan), who supports marijuana use for medical purpose,

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## Body scanner controversy

Pilots' unions for two major airlines are urging members to avoid full-body backscatter scanners at airport security checkpoints because it's believed they pose health risks after multiple exposures.

**How it works**  
Backscatter technology uses X-ray beam that scans the body

**Radiation exposure**  
minimal; one scan equal to two minutes of flying on an airplane

**What it shows**  
Contraband items absorb high amounts of X-rays, become visible on monitor

NOTE: Advanced imaging technology screening is optional for all passengers; physical pat-down screening an alternative

Single side scan takes 8 seconds  
Front of scanner



### Privacy concerns minimized

Scanner device uses backscatter reflections to produce image of a person's body underneath his or her clothes

Monitor with X-ray image

Each image automatically deleted from the system after it's cleared by the remotely-located security officer who never sees the scanned person

Source: U.S. Transportation Security Agency, American Science and Engineering, Inc., CNN

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### TAKE YOUR PICK

The empty lot south of Mount Carmel Cathedral and across the road from Payless Supermarket in Chalan Kanoa has become a public showroom for an increasing number of used or secondhand vehicles that are for sale. Another spot where those wanting to buy used cars, pickup trucks, vans or sport utility vehicles can go to is the parking lot of Kristo Rai church in Garapan.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## Govt says full-body scanners at airports are safe

By LINDSEY TANNER  
AP MEDICAL WRITER

CHICAGO (AP)—They look a little like giant refrigerators and pack a radiation dose big enough to peer through clothing for bombs or weapons, yet too minuscule to be harmful, federal officials insist. As the government rolls out hundreds more full-body scanners at airports just in time for crowds of holiday travelers, it is working to reassure the public that the machines are safe.

An independent group of experts agrees, as long as radiation doses are kept within the low limits set for the scanners. Still, a few scientists worry that machines might malfunction, raising the risk of cancer.

### ON THE NET

TSA: <http://www.tsa.gov>

## Manglona: DPL should publish RFP on expiring public land leases

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota) introduced yesterday a bill that will require the Department of Public Lands to publish a request for proposal to lease public land at least a year before the expiration of an existing lease requiring legislative approval. He said by doing this, DPL will be able to obtain the best offer available for such properties.

Any lease of public land consisting of more than 5 hectares requires legislative approval.

For those public land leases that have less than one year left, DPL should publish an RFP within 30 days of the effective date of the bill becoming law, under Senate Bill 17-50.

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## Local

# Kyoto Gaidai Nishi cultural exchange this year could be last

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

Sixty-four students from Japan's Kyoto Gaidai Nishi High School arrived on Saipan yesterday for their annual exchange program with Grace Christian Academy.

The group, which also included four teachers, conveyed to GCA officials that this year could be the last of their annual visit to Saipan, which started in 2003.

They said the decision to stop the cultural exchange program is due to the lack of direct flights

from Kyoto to Saipan.

Kenji Ishimi, dean of faculty of Kyoto Gaidai Nishi High School, said they could still change their decision depending on the availability of direct flights next year.

He shared that students, in order to continue their friendship and close ties with the local students, have to bear the burden of traveling long hours from Kyoto to Kansai and Incheon just to connect a flight to Saipan.

"It's a long journey for our students...so we're not sure if we can continue this cultural

exchange with the local schools here," Ishimi said.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that Kyoto Gaidai Nishi has been holding cultural exchanges with local schools and this year marks the second time with Grace Christian Academy.

Ishimi said the Japanese students will also take up short diving lessons, participate in sports activities with local students, and spend two nights with the families of local students as part of the schools' home-stay program.

In a visit to GCA yesterday,

the visiting Japanese group was seen enjoying outdoor activities as they took part in GCA's volleyball and basketball games.

A short welcome ceremony was also held at the school's chapel where both schools presented special dance performances.

Ishimi said students from

Kyoto look forward every year to the cultural exchange visit to Saipan schools. He said the direct interaction with local counterparts helps Japanese students better understand and appreciate each other's culture and identity.

According to Susan Pajarilaga, GCA head teacher, 83

high school students joined the activities yesterday.

She said it is the GCA's objective to develop their students' skills in communication and interaction by mingling with foreign students. The activities, she said, help all participants become appreciative of other cultures and traditions.



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Visiting Japanese students from Kyoto Gaidai Nishi High School pose with their host counterpart during yesterday's cultural exchange activities at Grace Christian Academy. Over 60 foreign students are on island for the four-day event, of which two nights will be spent with local students' families.

## Torres seeks Kilili help on nuclear power impact study

### » Guam looks to CNMI law allowing small modular nuclear reactors

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
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REPORTER

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) has sought Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan's help in pursuing a federal technical assistance grant for the conduct of an impact study to pave the way for a "passive" nuclear power generation for the CNMI.

The Fitial administration has been pushing for the use of eco-friendly and alternative sources of energy, which includes nuclear power generation. With the high cost of fuel, the administration also wants to reduce reliance on fossil fuel.

At the same time, the Guam Public Utilities Commission is looking into the development of a program for the deployment of nuclear power through modular reactors in Guam, similar to the intent of a four-month-old

CNMI law.

Small modular nuclear reactors are designed to provide a transportable power source of nuclear power that is safe, clean, sustainable and cost-efficient.

"The CNMI has already enacted beneficial legislation which would accomplish this purpose," the Guam PUC said in a resolution.

Torres, author of the bill that was later signed into CNMI Public Law 17-10 or the Nuclear and Chemical Free Amendment Zone Act of 2010, said such a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy could amount to \$750,000 to \$950,000.

"To reiterate our need in this matter, I am officially requesting that your office pursue a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy or any other federal source," Torres told Sablan in a Nov. 15 letter.

Torres said yesterday he expects a response from Sablan next week.

"Our next major step is having the U.S. federal government assist the Commonwealth with technical assistance funding to

finance a site-specific feasibility study for Saipan and the CNMI," Torres said.

Torres said his office has been in contact with Hyperion Power Generation Inc., which has a co-operative research and development agreement with the U.S. Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico to develop small modular nuclear reactors or mini power reactors.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, as early as April, had been briefed about Hyperion Power, which has built refrigerator-sized modular nuclear reactors.

Hyperion has also begun the licensing process with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

But Torres said other entities could also provide the CNMI with these modular nuclear reactors.

Hyperion's refrigerator-sized modular nuclear reactors have limitless applications and could fuel a huge variety of important facilities including hospitals, desalinization plants, emergency facilities, industrial parks, factories, military bases, and even small towns for many years.

## SSHS students watch Saipan premiere of new 'Potter' film

Over 150 Saipan Southern High School students packed the Hollywood Theaters Friday morning to watch the premiere of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1*.

Saipan Southern High School Book Club has been promoting the event through literature connection in Book Club discussions, blog, and Facebook page.

"Students enjoy seeing the book come alive through the motion picture. There is also

an increase of book circulation when there is a movie tie-in. It's great when students want to read for pleasure. I enjoy organizing programs and activities in our school library that does that for our students," said SSHS librarian Sudi Napalan.

SSHS senior student Megan Ito said, "I expected the movie to be horrible because the one before this was bad and didn't have much storyline or plot or much content but this install-

ment was great. It proved to be more exciting than most of the Harry Potter films. It was like watching the 1<sup>st</sup> Harry Potter film for the first time."

Ninety percent of the students surveyed for the activity says that "they were encouraged to read the *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* book by their friends and teachers." Ninety-three percent indicated that watching the movie would encourage them more to read the book. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Southern High School students watch the premiere of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1* at the Hollywood Theaters Friday morning.

## US Probation warns probationer for changing address

The U.S. Probation Office has issued warning to a probationer who relocated from Tanapag to Garapan without informing the Probation Office.

U.S. Probation Officer Gregory F. Arriola notified the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Thursday that their office has warned Francisco Reyes Santos will be sanctioned if he further violates his probation.

Arriola said a U.S. Probation Officer reminded Santos that his conditions of supervised release requires him to inform the U.S. Probation Office at least 10 days prior to

changing addresses.

Arriola said Santos admitted that he had "messed up" and that he will report as required any future relocations.

"As of this date, Mr. Santos is compliant with all other conditions of supervised release," he said.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Mark W. Bennett granted the Probation Office's recommendation that no action to be taken at this time against Santos.

On Aug. 15, 2000, the federal court sentenced Santos to 63 months in prison followed by

three years of supervised release for the offense of attempted interference with commerce by robbery.

On May 30, 2008, the federal court revoked Santos' supervised release and ordered him to spend 21 months in prison.

The court issued the revocation after Santos was arrested and subsequently charged in November 2005 in connection with a burglary of a warehouse of the CNMI Water Task Force in Lower Base. Supplies and equipment valued at \$61,181 were reportedly stolen. (Ferdie de la Torre)



# Medical referral program remains stalled

## » Only one of three travel agencies processing patients' airline tickets

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

World Tour and Travel and Wings Travel continue to refuse processing passengers under the CNMI's medical referral program, citing the non-payment of arrears owed them by the government.

Medical referral patients in the CNMI routinely seek treatment in Manila, Hawaii, Guam, and the U.S. hospitals, paid for by the CNMI government.

Wings Travel, which stopped processing medical referral patients more than a month ago, is owed \$70,000 by the government.

Its manager, Ed Camacho, said they did receive a check amounting to \$41,000 from the government last week, but this was not honored by the bank due to insufficient funds.

Camacho said that Wings Travel is willing to lift its suspension if the government partially pays its arrears and he remains hopeful that payment will

be made next week.

World Tour and Travel also confirmed yesterday that it has yet to collect any payment from the government.

The company suspended the processing of medical referral patients a month ago. Its representative declined to disclose how much the government owes the company.

A third travel agency, Pacific Sky Travel, claimed to have finally collected money from the government. However, its representative did not say as to when the company lifted its suspension of the processing of medical referral patients.

Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez earlier disclosed that the government's unpaid obligation to three travel agencies amount to \$180,000.

The *Saipan Tribune* failed to get comments from the department yesterday on how its plans to solve the medical referral crisis as Villagomez has yet to respond to email and phone calls.

DPH spent \$16.3 million in

referring medical cases to various medical facilities outside the Commonwealth in the last four

fiscal years, ending in 2009.

Fiscal year 2009 had the highest expenditure of \$7.4

million for 907 patients. This is an over 50 percent increase from 2008's expenses of \$4.4

million for 716 cases.

In 2007, CHC noted 565 medical referral cases and spent \$1.5 million compared to \$2.8 million spent in 2006 for 526 cases.



### ROTARY VISITORS

Rotary Club International District 2750 Vice Secretary Hideyuki Suzuki addresses the Saipan Rotarians while District Governor Katsuhiko Tatsuno and Assistant Governor Joe Rios look on during the club's regular meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's Restaurant.

CLARISSA DAVID



### STUDENT VISITORS

Visiting Japanese students from the Chigasaki High School try the local food offered them by their counterparts during Wednesday's cultural exchange festival at the Saipan Southern High School grounds.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

## Health and Wellness Fair today at the Civic Center in Susupe

Glimpses of Saipan is holding its first Saipan Health and Wellness Fair at the Civic Center in Susupe today, Nov. 20, from 10am to 4pm.

Coinciding with the fair is the launch of Foremost Foods Saipan's non-fat milk at the fair.

Susan Marchitti, account manager, says, "The goals of the Fair are to increase visibility of health and wellness resources within our community and to motivate participants to make positive lifestyle changes. The fair will include free information about proper nutrition, diet and exercise, health screenings, demonstrations and activities with athletes and sports

clubs, information on stress reduction, vitamins, preventative care and other ways to promote healthy living."

Various organizations will be setting up booths and disseminate information on their respective programs. Among them are the Diabetes Coalition, PHI Pharmacy, Gold's Gym, Bike Safety Group, Subway, Foremost, Coastal Resources Management, Flu Watch, CDC, Pacific Marine and Coastal Resources Management, NMPASI, Brabu Pharmacy, HIV/AIDS program, Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, Commonwealth Cancer Association, ECCS, EHDI, Marianas Health

Services, and Del Benson.

A major highlight of the fair is the awarding of the winners of the poster-making contest that drew 270 entries from across the Commonwealth.

There will also be health screening where visitors can have their blood pressure and blood sugar level checked.

Glimpses is inviting the community to come and visit the fair from 10am to 4pm.

"We hope visitors will come away with an enhanced sense of how to increase their health and improve their lifestyle not only for themselves but also for their families," Marchitti said. (PR)

## Survey on for NMC student center improvements

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas College Students' Services dean Leo Pangelinan said a survey is now being conducted targeting students' views and opinions on NMC's student center.

The survey will decide how management will improve the student center, according to Pangelinan.

It was earlier disclosed by leaders of the Associated Students of NMC that the student center, supposed to be the favorite spot of students on campus, has not been attracting a significant number of visitors due to concerns on space and operation.

Pangelinan, during Thursday's Start Smart seminar held at Saipan World Resort, said that students' feedback is vital in the completion of the long-overdue project.

"The survey is ongoing...

to get the students' feedback on how they want the center to look like. There is a plan for its improvement and it should come from our students," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

He said, though, that actual changes will be done next school year.

The physical location of the student center in Building J, according to Pangelinan, will remain until a final plan is approved.

To date, ASNMC leaders are assessing the final design of the center's mural, to be presented to students.

"The main concern on the student center is the space...but most likely we will remain at the present location. The changes or improvements will most likely be on the design and new arrangements [only]," said Pangelinan, adding only minimal cost will be incurred in the planned changes.

"Our goal is to improve access to the center...and make

it more appealing to a broader group of students," he added.

Based on the proposed facility master plan for NMC, a new and bigger student center will be built. However, Pangelinan admitted that this may not happen soon due to budget constraints.

The ASNMC also submitted a proposal to revisit the center's rules and regulations as well as the facility's makeover plan.

Based on their findings, rules are not being properly obeyed by students therefore they recommended some fines and penalties to be established to make everyone accountable.

To do the makeover, a painting party for students is being planned by the student council where they encourage students to volunteer.

The Board of Regents had admitted that students' concerns and problems with the student center have been on the table for quite some time, but solutions have yet to be adopted.

## HIMAWARI

### SUSHI & NOODLE BAR

**Open Everyday**

Dinner 5:15pm to 9:00pm (Last order)  
Lunch 11:00am to 1:30pm (Noodles only)

**Poki \$5.00**  
**Octopus Garlic Butter \$6.00**  
**Baked Salmon roll \$8.00**  
**Chutoro Nigiri (Fatter Tuna) 2pcs \$10.00**  
**Hamachi Nigiri (Yellow tail) 2pcs \$4.00**  
and etc.

**Sukiyaki Pot \$20**  
**Grouper Pot \$20**

**Ramen & Udon \$5.00**  
**Happy hour everytime.**



# Faisao: Terminated juvenile probation supervisor never demoted

» Supervisor's counsel claims Faisao's declaration self-serving, erroneous

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Melvin O. Faisao asserts that Sylvio S. Ada, the juvenile probation supervisor he terminated, was never demoted and failed to adequately explain discrepancies in his trip to Rota.

Attorney Robert T. Torres, responding for Ada, described Faisao's declaration as conclusory and self-serving.

Faisao submitted to the Superior Court his declaration to back his opposition to Ada's motion to stay his (Faisao) decision to terminate Ada on Sept. 30, 2010.

In the declaration, Faisao said Ada's then position title and pay level was always the same.

Faisao said the persons whom Ada was directed to report to had lower salaries and different job titles/descriptions.

Their duties, the Secretary said, encompassed more than just the Juvenile

Probation Unit.

"I am the appointing authority who made the decision to take adverse action against Mr. Sylvio S. Ada and terminate his employment," Faisao said.

He said he made sure through the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of Personnel Management that proper procedures were followed in this action.

Faisao said Ada was given an opportunity to explain why the adverse action shouldn't be taken against him.

"Unfortunately, he failed to adequately explain the discrepancies between what actually occurred during his trip to Rota and what he reported as justification for his trip to Rota," the Secretary said.

Assistant attorney general Tom Schweiger, counsel for Faisao and DCCA, said that Ada has failed to show any legal authority that would allow the court to issue a stay on the administrative agency's decision to take adverse action against him.

Schweiger said Ada has not even attempted to show that he would suffer irreparable injury should the court decline to issue a stay.

The government lawyer said Ada has not offered any explanation for his failure to note on the travel justification that there was no hearing on that date.

Schweiger said Ada has not offered any justification for the language in the travel justification which indicated that the hearing "turned out granting one of the juvenile permission to move to Guam" when in fact there were no juvenile hearings.

"He billed the CNMI a total of \$905.70 for a bogus four day trip to Rota," Schweiger said.

Torres said that Faisao's declaration states nothing but a conclusory and self-serving statement and is undermined by the record, including the recommendations of the Office of Personnel Management.

To begin with, Torres said, Faisao does not speak for the Civil Service

Commission, nor does his counsel.

Torres said the record is clear that on Sept. 28, 2010, the CSC, through chairman Daniel H. Nielsen, informed Ada that there were insufficient board members who could hear his claim so that they could not muster a quorum.

Torres said as a result of CSC's inability to hear the appeal, much less take any action as a paralyzed entity, Ada's appeal/request for hearing was summarily denied.

Torres said apparently Faisao ignored the reality that CSC rendered a final decision directing Ada to pursue the matter with the court.

The lawyer said because Ada was wrongfully deprived of livelihood with employment and income, a stay of administrative action is not only warrant-

ed; it is absolutely necessary and fair, both to Ada and to DCCA and Faisao.

He said Ada should be immediately reinstated to the position of Juvenile Probation supervisor and DCCA and Faisao as well as all other personnel be stopped from any further efforts to demote or remove him pending final determination by the court.

In Ada's appeal with the CSC, Torres asserted that Faisao's action is retaliatory in nature and that Gov. Benigno Fitial should sanction the secretary for this.

The case came about after Faisao merged the Juvenile Probation Unit and the Juvenile Detention Unit as part of a larger departmental shakeup.

Torres asserted that the reorganization was illegal and affects the rights and positions of the civil service employees.

## SENATE

From Page 1

abstained from voting.

Sen. Henry San Nicolas (Cov-Tinian) was the only one absent among nine senators.

Some 30 Rota students, parents and educators were at the Senate session to drum up opposition against the marijuana bill.

"I know that marijuana can be used for medical purpose if it's done right, if it's legislated right. ...At one time alcohol use was outlawed and later on became one of the most profitable commodities," Crisostimo told *Saipan Tribune* in a phone interview after the bill's resounding defeat.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), author of the bill, said yesterday he is disappointed with the defeat of his bill.

"I know they didn't do much research about benefits of marijuana. I am still planning to introduce a medical marijuana bill," he said.

HB 17-47 seeks to legalize, regulate and tax marijuana use for medicinal and other purposes in the CNMI. It allows people at least 21 years old to "possess, cultivate, or transport marijuana for personal use."

Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota), in a phone interview, said the 7-0 vote shows the strong opposition to the marijuana legislation.

"Even students, parents, teachers testified against the bill," Manglona said, adding that none testified in favor of the legislation.

Rota High School students Mariah Barcinas, Abraham Son Takeshi, Jael Manglona, and Austin Delos Santos testified against the bill, along with Dexter Apatang, president of the Dr. Rita Inos Junior High School's Parent-Teacher Association, Rota High School PTA vice president Marla Barcinas, and Rota High School teacher of CNMI history and U.S. government Elvira Mesngon.

The Senate president reiterated that marijuana puts children at risk, among other ill-effects of allowing marijuana for all purposes.

Manglona said alcohol and cigarette use among the youth is already a big problem, and this will get worse if marijuana use is legalized. Manglona also said there are a lot of ways to generate revenue, including properly enforcing tax laws.

Crisostimo said he will also talk to Torres whether he would really introduce a medical marijuana bill.

"Marijuana is needed for medical purposes. It's one of the best forms of painkillers because it has no side effects. I'm sure if it's medical marijuana bill, it will pass the Senate. The governor stated on record he supports medical marijuana bill," the senator said.

Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota) said she is "elated" with the Senate's rejection of the controversial marijuana bill "as it would do more harm than good for our children, future generations and Commonwealth, not to mention the millions of federal funds that may be jeopardized if such bill becomes a public law."

"The detrimental effects of marijuana and the fear of losing millions of federal funds were substantiated or collaborated by those who provided testimonies from the general public including that of PSS, CHC, Dare Program under the DPS. Thus, we cannot afford to lose what is already given versus what is not, as an old saying goes, 'a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush,' or compromise the health, welfare and education of our children today and in the future," Santos said.

During yesterday's session, Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan) also asked students whether they are in support of legalizing marijuana use, to which they said "no," said Manglona.

Torres' marijuana bill has been drawing opposing views from community members. Those who oppose it say its enactment into law will result in the loss of millions of dollars in federal money and will increase crimes. Those supporting it say there has been no proof that this bill will really result in federal money pulled out from the CNMI and that marijuana's medicinal qualities will be a big help to residents.

Torres said legalizing marijuana use in the CNMI will also boost tourist arrivals on the islands. This is the first time that legislation has been introduced in the CNMI legalizing marijuana.

HB 17-47, HS1 or the Legalization, Regulation and Taxation of Cannabis Act of 2010 permits the regulation and taxation of the commercial production and sale of marijuana to people at least 21 years old.

The bill, however, prohibits possession of marijuana on school grounds and prohibits its use in the presence of minors.

Under federal law, marijuana remains a Schedule I drug and is illegal to use and possess.

But Torres said there are already 15 states in the U.S. that have legalized marijuana for medical use.

## SCANNERS

From Page 1

The Transportation Security Administration says radiation from one scan is about the same as a person would get from flying for about three minutes in an airplane at 30,000 feet, where atmospheric radiation levels are higher than on the ground. That amount is vastly lower than a single dental X-ray.

You would have to go through scanners more than 1,000 times in one year to even meet the maximum recommended level—and even pilots don't do that.

"We are confident that full-body X-ray security products and practices do not pose a significant risk to the public health," officials from the Food and Drug Administration and the TSA wrote in a letter last month to White House science adviser John Holdren.

Yet ripples of concern have surfaced among some passengers fearful about excess radiation, among some flight crews already overexposed to radiation in the air and even among a few scientists.

"The thing that worries me the most is what happens if the thing fails in some way" and emits too much radiation, said Arizona State University physics professor Peter Rez.

The risk for failure is higher than in a medical setting because the machines are operated much more often, and by TSA workers without medical training,

Rez said.

American Airlines pilot Sam Mayer said pilots he knows are opting out of being scanned.

"All they're telling the public is that it's fine. We're looking for some science" to back that up, Mayer said. The FDA says the science does establish the machines' safety.

Airline pilots and other flight crew members face a slightly increased lifetime risk of developing cancer, about 1 percent higher than the general population, according to the Health Physics Society, a nonprofit group of scientists and other professionals involved in radiation safety.

"Radiation has always been a concern of pilots because of what we do," Mayer said. "This is just one more exposure on top of what we're getting."

Mayer stressed that pilots are equally upset with the TSA's option for people who don't want full-body scans—body pat-downs that critics say are akin to groping.

"We want the TSA to stop the bad guys, and that's not us," Mayer said.

About 385 scanners, each costing up to \$170,000, are already in place at more than 60 airports. The TSA is adding more and expects to have 500 total in place by year's end.

About half are what are known as millimeter-wave units, made by L-3 Communications, which are not the focus of safety concerns because they emit a less potent kind of radiation. The remaining machines are Rapiscan Sys-

tem's "backscatter" scanners, which emit X-ray-like ionizing radiation. This kind of radiation in larger doses can cause cell changes leading to cancer.

"From a strictly radiation-safety standpoint, there would be no concern" with either type of scanner, said Richard Morin, a radiology specialist at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Fla. "For both of them, levels for radiation are pretty much insignificant."

The Health Physics Society says the screening is justified if radiation doses do not exceed standard limits, and if the public is informed of the radiation exposure.

The National Council on Radiation Protection & Measurements, an independent group that advises the government on radiation issues, examined backscatter screening at the request of the Food and Drug Administration. It said non-ionizing scanners should be considered first, if possible. But it also recommended limits for backscatter radiation and said health risks would be minimal if doses were below those limits. The government insists that they are.

David Schauer, the council's executive director, says he has no qualms about being scanned by backscatter devices, and would allow his three sons to be scanned, too.

TSA spokesman Nick Kimball said Thursday that both types of scanners are safe, cost about the same and are similarly effective. He said the TSA chose to use both types to keep the process competitive and to "drive innovation."

year is the Coral Ocean Point property near the Saipan airport.

Manglona said DPL should start planning now what to do with the property if Coral Ocean Point does not intend to ask for a 15-year lease extension. By putting out an RFP, Manglona said DPL will be able to choose the best offer among interested investors, among other things.

Any proposal submitted in response to the RFP shall include a detailed business plan regarding the use of the public land and facilities, including any proposed expansion or renovation of the existing facilities, any economic benefit or development, and any public benefit or contribution to the community that will be realized by the lease.

posals to lease public land. If DPL does not act quickly to obtain a new lessee before the expiration or after the termination of an existing lease, DPL may be left with few and unprofitable options for such property," Manglona said in his bill.

In an interview, he cited as an example the Paupau Hotel property on Rota.

"When the lease terminated, DPL didn't even secure the property and didn't offer the property to other investors. When this happen and when we wait for too long, the property gets deteriorated and then its worth becomes much less," Manglona told *Saipan Tribune*.

On Saipan, one of the major public land leases that will be expiring next

## MANGLONA

From Page 1

Manglona, in a phone interview from Rota last night, said his bill will be acted on during the Senate's next session.

The bill says for any lease that is terminated, DPL should publish an RFP within 30 days of the termination date.

Manglona said DPL should not wait for the last minute before making a decision on what to do with expiring land leases.

"Publishing a request for proposal to lease public lands is fair and transparent, and affords all interested persons an opportunity to make a pro-



# DPW pays \$40K penalty, trains staff to comply with DEQ orders

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Department of Public Works has paid \$40,000 in penalties for the administrative order issued against it by the Division of Environmental Quality for failure to comply with landfill operating requirements at the Marpi Solid Waste Facility.

DEQ issued three separate

administrative orders to the department and the mayor's offices of Tinian and Rota for non-compliance with landfill operating requirements, resulting in penalties.

The administrative orders were issued after DEQ inspected the Marpi Solid Waste Facility on Saipan and the Tinian and Rota municipal dumps in January, as required under the Commonwealth Solid

Waste Management Act and the CNMI Solid Waste Management Regulations.

Public Works Secretary Martin C. Sablan, in an interview with the *Saipan Tribune*, said he made the request to the Department of Finance to transfer \$15,000 from the Solid Waste Revolving Fund to the DEQ account last Oct. 7.

Sablan said he already received confirmation from

DEQ director Frank Rabauli-man that the fund transfer had been executed this month.

Aside from the \$15,000 fine, Sablan said they also disbursed approximately \$25,000 for the removal of used oil at the DPW Transfer Station in Lower Base.

According to Sablan, DPW has already contracted Gresco to remove the waste oil as stipulated in the order.

Sablan said that in addition to payment of fines, the agency also hired five full time employees each for Tinian and Rota to oversee the dump operations on the two islands.

The secretary said DEQ has agreed to conduct trainings for

these newly hired employees as well as existing personnel on Saipan.

Sablan said environmental engineer Brian Bearden will conduct the training on Saipan next week and on Tinian and Rota by next month.

He also said that their office has worked on putting together an operations plan and an implementation plan applicable for the landfill and open dumps of the three islands.

According to Sablan, they have already updated DEQ and the Region 9 office of the Environmental Protection Agency on DPW's compliance with the administrative orders.

"EPA is pleased that we're

making progress and that regulatory agencies are working together to make things happen. We've shown improvements on our landfill operation," he said.

But Sablan admitted that other issues need to be addressed in relation to the administrative order for Saipan, particularly the repair of the pumping system.

"[Assistant attorney general] Jim Stump already requested for certified electricians and electrical engineers to do an assessment on the pump within the next month. He has been working on getting the right people and funding to do that," he said.

## Coast Guard Rear Adm. Charles Ray visits Guam



U.S. COAST GUARD

Rear Adm. Charles Ray onboard the Coast Guard cutter *Assateague* talks with their commanding officer, Lt. Lisa Rodman.

**GUAM**—The Coast Guard District 14 Commander, Rear Adm. Charles Ray, who assumed command of the 14th Coast Guard District on Oct. 22, 2010, visited all Coast Guard units in Guam on Nov. 9 and with senior leaders from the Air Force, Navy, and National Guard on Nov. 10.

He started the day with the Coast Guard meeting the Coast Guard Chiefs' Mess and gave an address clarifying the Coast Guard Commandant's Adm. Robert J. Papp, instructions regarding "Steadying the Fleet," focusing on current missions and directives and how the Coast Guard chiefs play a significant role in mentoring others and getting members engaged in training to master their craft.

Ray visited Coast Guard cutter *Washington* and *Assateague*, then had lunch aboard the cutter *Sequoia*, where he was presented a *Sequoia* ball cap as a sign of appreciation for his visit.

In his meeting with the cutters' commanding officers and crews, Ray said, "I am truly proud of what you do every day out here in Guam. You are on the edge of the edge and continue to perform day in and day out."

At the Coast Guard all-hands meeting at the Naval Base Guam Chapel, Ray addressed the entire Sector shore and afloat crews. He

again talked about "Steadying the Fleet" and praised Sector Guam for its performance despite being so far out on the supply chain. Several Coast Guard members took the opportunity to voice concerns and make suggestions for improvement.

District 14 Command Master Chief Michael Ferreira followed up by talking about safety and stressed the need to put safety in the forefront in the wake of several losses of shipmates during the past year.

After a tour of the new Station Apra Harbor facility and a chance to speak with the boat crews, Ray took a tour of Outer Apra Harbor onboard a 25-foot response boat with the Station Apra Harbor Command Cadre, BMC Nicholas Pavlik, BM1 David Callaway, and MK1 Joshua Herring, along with Coxswain BM2 Alanna Impastato.

Ray left very impressed, commenting on the unit's Record of Inspections: "Great tour of spaces; impressed with...transformation...and professionalism of crew. Took fam[iliarization] ride in harbor and beyond; great intro[duction] to AO[R] and challenges. BZ on performance of crew."

Pavlik had a chance to speak with Ray on some of the unique challenges Guam presents to operational units, as well as policy concerns af-

fecting Station Apra Harbor. Ray was particularly pleased with the conversation and Station's officer in charge.

The day ended with a visit to the Coast Guard Guam Auxiliary flotilla meeting at the University of Guam. Ray praised the Auxiliarists in Guam and Saipan for their volunteer service in supporting Coast Guard missions and marine safety programs throughout Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Before departing Guam, Ray met with Col. Tod Fingal, 36th Wing and followed with a Joint Region Marianas brief covering anticipated projects on island to include facilities for the anticipated U.S. Marines movement from Okinawa.

Time at Andersen Air Force Base ended with a tour of the Global Hawk facility courtesy of Lt. Col. Brandon Baker, where Ray spent time talking about how Global Hawk may be able to assist many of the Coast Guard's missions in the Marianas. The day finished with a tour of Guam USO and a meeting with Gen. Donald Goldhorn, National Guard and Adm. Paul Bushong, Joint Region Marianas.

Overall the common theme of all the visits tackled ways to bring our units together and improve overall mission efficiency and effectiveness throughout the Marianas and Micronesia. (USCG)

## Woman sues ex-employer for alleged injury in fall

» Storeowner says surveillance camera shows no such incident

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_deltorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A woman has sued her former employer over an alleged injury she sustained when she slipped and fell at the entrance area of her jobsite.

Viana Ikeda alleged that her then employer, K.S. Chang Corp., owner of I-Mart, denied her medical attention and failed to pay her in the last pay period.

Ikeda, through counsel Victorino DLG. Torres, sued K.S. Chang Corp. for negligence and breach of contract and demanded damages, unpaid wages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

When *Saipan Tribune* contacted I-Mart yesterday for comment, storeowner Sung Nee Chang said she has not seen the complaint yet.

Chang, however, said they have a surveillance camera that showed that Ikeda did not fall in the entrance area.

Roselie Mangulabnan, the

store's accountant, told *Saipan Tribune* that Ikeda and her husband came to the store the day after the alleged incident to ask for money due to her injury.

Mangulabnan said their employer played a footage of the camera that showed that Ikeda did not slip at all.

Ikeda and her husband left after seeing the footage and never returned, according to the accountant.

Torres stated in the complaint that during her day off on Nov. 14, 2008, Ikeda went to I-Mart for some grocery shopping. While in the premises, Ikeda checked her work schedule for the week.

As she was leaving the store, Ikeda slipped and fell in the entrance area, Torres said.

Due to the incident, Torres said, Ikeda suffered bodily injury and asked her supervisor for a day-off. The supervisor asked Ikeda to secure a medical slip and informed her that

the company will not be responsible for her medical bills.

Torres said the plaintiff failed to report for work for several days as she was in extreme pain.

Torres said when Ikeda returned to work on Nov. 25, 2008, and asked for her schedule, the accountant notified her she could no longer work there.

"Even worse, plaintiff Ikeda, when she asked for her pay check, she was ignored and she was not paid for her last pay period," the lawyer said.

Torres said the company has a duty to reasonably ensure that the slope on the entrance is safe to walk on and to provide a sign to give warning that the area that they are walking into has a sudden slope.

He added that the defendant has also a duty to pay Ikeda's last pay period and provide medical attention to her since the company is her employer.

## DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on November 23, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before November 23.

**THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE\*.**

\* You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than November 23. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or visit our Customer Service Representatives at our Chalan Lau-Lau Office.



Life in Motion

Maria Masga and Raymond King  
P.O. Box 502933  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone No. (670) 236-8793/285-0947

pro se

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

In Re The Matter Of The Petition To Appoint General Guardianship For:

**COLLEEN RAE MASGA KING and NATHANIEL ANTHONY MASGA KING,**  
Minor Children,

By:

**ROSE MARIE KING NAVARRO and RANDOLPH KELLY NAVARRO**  
Petitioners.

**FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0474**  
**NOTICE OF HEARING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition to Appoint Guardians for the above-named children by Maria Masga and Raymond King on behalf of the "Petitioners," was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court.

A HEARING of said Petition for Appointment of Guardians will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Guma Hustisia Building, Susupe, Saipan, NMI on the 29th, day of November, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 17th day of November, 2010.

Bernadita Sablan  
Clerk of Court  
/s/  
By: Deputy Clerk of Court

# Opinion

Hafa Adali

## Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR  
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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## Reasonable price for air safety

We've all been annoyed at having to remove our shoes, toss a bottle of water or repeatedly walk through the airport metal detector, disrobing one item at a time, after the alarm sounded. But most of us also understand that the security team generally knows what's most effective in preventing terrorists from targeting airplanes—and the flying public.

Pilots also play a leadership role in this effort. And that's why it's regrettable that pilot unions last week urged members to avoid full-body scanning machines while also renewing complaints about alternative screening, an enhanced pat-down during which security agents touch the inside of thighs and other body parts.

Yes, we hear the pilots' concerns about repeated exposure to low-level radiation in the scans and the sometimes-cumbersome security process. But this latest reaction has only served to elevate passenger concerns into an almost hysterical backlash against tighter procedures.

Several civil liberties groups are planning lawsuits to challenge the constitutionality of airport screening techniques. And an Internet campaign is underway to persuade passengers to avoid the imaging system and instead ask for pat-downs to an attempt to slow to a crawl the nation's air traffic system for the busy Thanksgiving period.

This is progress?

The terrorist threat continues to evolve, requiring defenses to change, sometimes in ways that aren't convenient. In the 1970s, terrorists hijacked planes for political ransom. In 2001, they turned passenger jets into flying missiles. More recently, terrorists have smuggled explosives onto planes or attempted to remotely detonate bombs shipped as cargo.

No technology is perfect, but imaging equipment is the most effective for detecting explosives and other dangerous items hidden on human bodies. And a full-body scan conducted by a same-gender security agent is the most reasonable alternative.

Advanced imaging technology has been used for almost three years, and 1,000 machines are expected to be in use in U.S. airports by the end of next year, something most Americans demanded after 9/11. And the recently shouted concerns seem to have little evidence to support them. Studies show that radiation levels aren't excessive and dangerous. And, as far as the privacy concerns, the electronic images are viewed in a private room and the person's face and identity isn't known to the screener, who reviews the images for security threats and then deletes them.

The system may leave something to be desired in terms of speed and personal space, but pilots and passengers must give it a chance. The stakes are too high to simply make security a guessing game.

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## China needs to lengthen its short fuse

By RAJAN MENON  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

China has generally handled its extraordinary global ascendance with finesse, assuring neighbors that it remains a developing country and is embarked on a "peaceful rise." This astute policy is informed by the past. Heirs of an ancient civilization, China's leaders have a keen sense of history, and Chinese strategists have studied the experiences of other rising powers intently.

Britain's smooth adjustment to being surpassed by the United States in the early 20th century is one case that gained China's attention. Another, and very different, example is Germany's bid to challenge France's position in Europe and Britain's supremacy at sea in the late 19th century. That latter gambit evoked an alliance among Britain, France and Russia, led to Germany's encirclement, and eventually to a world war that brought disaster to Europe and defeat to Germany. It need not have been that way. Otto von Bismarck, who unified Germany after Prussia's defeat of Austria (1866) and France (1871), understood the importance of treading lightly and assuaging the fears of Germany's neighbors so that they would not join forces and encircle it. Once Kaiser Wilhelm dismissed Bismarck in 1890, he discarded the Iron Chancellor's strategy and embarked on what proved to be the ruinous path to 1914.

The lesson China seemed to take from these examples is that it should emulate Britain, not Wilhelmine Germany.

But something has changed of late. Beijing's diplomacy has lost its finesse.

Consider two recent examples. In September, Japan, cowed by China's chest-thumping, released the captain of the fishing boat it impounded after the vessel strayed into the waters adjoining a clump of islands (Senkaku in Japanese, Diaoyu in Chinese) that both Beijing and Tokyo claim but that the latter controls. But that was not enough to placate China's leaders, who could not resist follow-on opportunities to chastise and snub the Japanese even after Japan's prime minister backed down and drew fire at home for succumbing to intimidation. And China did not confine itself to diplomatic displays of its displeasure. It barred the sale of rare earth minerals (crucial to the manufacturing of high-tech electronic equipment) to Japan. And despite signals that it was lifting the ban, shipments have not resumed. Beijing seemed unconcerned that other states would be rattled by the ban, given that China accounts for more than 90 percent of the world's current supply of this vital raw material.

The second example is the tantrum Beijing threw in October after Chinese human rights activist Liu Xiaobo was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Liu was vilified as a subversive and a criminal merely for writing a manifesto calling for democracy in China. The leaders

of a country touted as the next superpower depicted a frail and sick man whom they had already imprisoned as a dire threat. But there was more. Beijing warned the Norwegian government—which does not decide who gets Nobel Prizes—that its relationship with China could be damaged. And it initiated a campaign, which is ongoing, to browbeat European governments into boycotting the December ceremony in Oslo at which Liu will be honored.

Perhaps China's loss of poise is temporary. Perhaps its leaders are playing to nationalist galleries at home because socialism no longer stirs popular emotions. (But that is a dangerous game; they may be hard-pressed to de-escalate future crises of a more serious nature.) Who knows? What is clear is that Beijing's over-the-top reaction to what were ultimately trivial disputes that could have been defused calmly has its neighbors concerned.

If China does become the world's most powerful nation, what would happen if it got angry about something truly important? This is the question being asked in India, Vietnam, Japan and Indonesia, the very countries that, no matter what they say to the contrary, are watching China's ascent with a mix of admiration and unease.

By virtue of geography, these nations are also well positioned to join the United States in an encircling strategy. We're hardly at that point—China has plenty of carrots and sticks, and its neighbors are too smart to line up mechanically with the United States—but there are signs of nervousness.

India and the United States, estranged for much of the Cold War, now talk of a "strategic" partnership. U.S. arms will soon start flowing to India. President Obama this week endorsed India's longtime quest for a seat on the U.N. Security Council. Over the last several years, India and Japan, which have had little to do with each other on matters of national security, have engaged in a security dialogue and, together with the United States, joint naval exercises. Washington has not merely mended its fences with Vietnam; it is systematically deepening ties with Hanoi. A shared concern about China is one reason for this. The ban on American arms sales to Indonesia (another country in which suspicions toward China run deep) has been lifted.

These nascent realignments carry risks. Treating China as if it were a potential enemy could turn out to be a self-fulfilling prophecy, leaving everyone worse off. But if this denouement is to be avoided, it's not enough for other states to eschew worst-case thinking. China needs to regain its composure and revert to its "peaceful rise" playbook—and ruminate anew on Bismarck.

Rajan Menon is a professor of political science at City College of New York/City University of New York. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# A Secret Service agent's sobering conclusion on JFK

By **CARL LEUBSDORF**  
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

**H**is dark hair has long since turned white. The years have accentuated his features, and sunken eyes surrounded by deep, dark circles betray a lifelong anguish.

But after 47 years, former Secret Service agent Clint Hill says he has become convinced that he could not have prevented President John F. Kennedy's assassination in Dallas.

A dozen years after Kennedy was killed, Hill expressed his guilt in a brutal, emotional 1975 interview with Mike Wallace on "60 Minutes" for not climbing aboard the president's limousine more quickly to shield him from the fatal shot.

"Had I turned in a different direction, I'd have made it," said Hill, who had just retired for health reasons at age 43. "It's my fault. ... And I'll live with that to my grave."

He subsequently withstood many difficult years, including bouts with alcoholism and pills, before taking hold of his life. After two trips to Dallas—with his wife in 1990 and fellow former agents last June—and spending hours in Dealey Plaza, Hill no longer feels that way.

"I came to the conclusion that I did the best I could and there was nothing more I could have done that day," he said during a panel last week at Georgetown University that previewed "The Kennedy Detail," a book and television documentary in which Hill joins other members of Kennedy's protective detail in telling their version of

that day's events.

On Monday, the documentary will air on the Discovery Channel on the anniversary of Kennedy's death.

They're speaking out now, former agent Jerry Blaine said, to counter the increasing belief that Lee Harvey Oswald was part of a larger conspiracy when he killed Kennedy.

"Over 47 years, there has not been a single bit of evidence to show that it was a conspiracy," said Blaine, who helped advance Kennedy's ill-fated Texas visit. "If we don't speak up and put a balance to this, history would never know exactly what happened."

The book contains previously unpublished nuggets, such as the incident at 2:15 the next morning when Blaine, on duty at Lyndon Johnson's Washington home, thought he heard an intruder and found himself pointing a loaded submachine gun at the new president.

But the heart of the story is their detailed description of one day in Dallas.

As Kennedy's car crept through downtown's crowded streets, Hill scanned the crowd from the running board of the follow-up car; Kennedy had barred agents from the back of his limousine. Suddenly, Hill heard "a loud, explosive noise to my right rear." He jumped down and ran toward Kennedy's moving car, never hearing Oswald's second shot.

"When I got to the president's vehicle, just as I approached it, the third shot rang out, hitting the president in the head, just above the right ear," he said. "It left a hole about the size of my palm."

He climbed aboard the trunk, pushing Jacqueline Kennedy onto the seat. Seeing the extent of the president's wounds, he signaled thumbs-down to the follow-up car "so that they knew the situation was dire."

At Parkland Hospital, the first lady initially refused to leave the limousine until Hill covered Kennedy's comatose body and bloody head with his jacket.

Though many details had been told before, the story remains riveting, especially for those of us who vividly remember that day.

The situation an inadequately staffed Secret Service faced in Dallas, Blaine notes, was one Kennedy himself once cited as when he'd be most vulnerable. "The one thing we always feared was somebody in a window hidden away with a rifle, which is what happened," he said.

For years, the agents never discussed the assassination among themselves. But after reconnecting at a 1990 San Antonio meeting, Hill returned to Dallas, where he says in the book he first "realized that, even had he been on the back of the president's limousine, Oswald would have hit the president."

It remains one of our era's seminal moments. "Everything changed," Hill noted last week. "The age of innocence just died right there."

*Carl P. Leubsdorf is the former Washington bureau chief of the Dallas Morning News. Readers may write to him via e-mail at: carl.p.leubsdorf@gmail.com.*

# Will 2012 bring us to the world of the Fifth Sun?

By **TIM GIAGO (NANWICA KCIJI)**  
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

**A** little more than one year ago I wrote a column about the year 2012. The emphasis I made was that the ancient Mayans did not make predictions as much as they made calculations that have withstood the test of time and have proven to be unerringly accurate.

For some odd reason I have been getting requests to republish that column from people in different parts of the United States. With that in mind I will go back to the column I wrote on Sept. 23, 2009, and try to bring it up to date with a few revisions.

Perhaps I am being generous when I say that by now most people know about the Mayan civilization that thrived in Central America about A.D. 250 to A.D. 950. Although many of the carefully kept records of the Mayans were destroyed after their discovery by Spaniards, thereby erasing much of the history of these remarkable people, the Spaniards did leave some of the carvings and statues that concealed a large part of that history.

It was from these carvings that archaeologists were able to recreate the Mayan calendar and its subsequent historical importance and also its predictions.

The Great Cycle of the Mayan Long Count Calendar ends on the winter solstice of A.D. 2012. Following Mayan concepts of cyclic time and World Age transitions, this is as much about beginnings as endings. According to the Mayan Long Count Calendar we are almost at the end of the fifth and final 5,125 year cycle, the year

when the calendar began. How that transition will be carried out is the unanswered question.

Upheavals of epic proportions are sweeping Mother Earth. Different religions are in as much or more conflict as they were 2,000 years ago. Christians invade the lands of the Muslims and Muslim extremists use the suicide deaths of their fervent believers to bring down the twin towers of capitalism, symbols they surmise to be evidence of Western decadence. The entire world of international money grubbers nearly collapses of its own excesses in 2008 and 2009 and the world shuddered, but narrowly survives.

The new Obama administration was caught in the whirlpool. The cries of indignant Americans rock the airwaves: "Obama is driving this nation into bankruptcy," "I don't need the government telling me how to spend my money," and "Obamacare will cause a huge increase in taxes," are just a few of the expressions of anger rocking this country (I wrote the original column before the birth of the tea party movement).

In 2009 I predicted that Obama would be a one-term president. It's beginning to look more and more as if this will happen. The inevitable hammering of the far right has begun and ironically, the presidential elections of 2012 and the year 2012 of the Mayan calendar are on a collision course. The light of change predicted by the Mayans could be darkened by the shifting winds of change.

The Mayans predicted that "going into the 5th Dimension," it will be the start of a new era. At sunrise on December 21, 2012, the earth will be crossing the equator aligning itself with the center of the galaxy for the first time in 26,000 years. This will create a cosmic cross

which the Mayans considered to be the "tree of life." This will open a channel for universal energy to flow through the earth, "cleansing it and all who dwell upon it, rising all to a higher level of vibrations. This process has already begun.

Does a portion of that cleansing mean washing away a part of the earth?

For the first time in 26,000 years all of the planets will be aligned.

According to the Mayan prophecies, "The earth will not be destroyed on December 21, 2012." The Mayan view this date as a rebirth — the start of the world of the fifth sun.

Archaeologists will attest to the accuracy of the Mayan calendar. There was a tremendous power in the calculations and beliefs of not only the ancient Mayans, but in that of the Hopi Indians of the Southwest and many of the still traditional tribes of the Great Plains.

There is a powerful spiritual feeling among the wicasa wakan (holy men) of many tribal nations that something is coming, an event that will shake this civilization to its very core. Some predict that the earth will turn on its axis and where there is land there will be water and where there is water there will be land.

The next two years will creep along to Dec. 21, 2012 with much trepidation. The wills of the believers and non-believers will be stretched to their limits. What future awaits us in "the world of the fifth sun"?

*Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is the founder and first president of the Native American Journalists Association and is now the publisher of the Native Sun News. He can be reached at editor@nsweekly.com.*

# One step forward on a very long road

By **FRIDA GHITIS**  
THE MIAMI HERALD

**W**hen generals in Burma (now called Myanmar) decided to free the world's most famous prisoner, they gave their country and supporters of human rights across the planet a reason to celebrate. Few people alive today embody courage, integrity and devotion to a cause the way Aung San Suu Kyi does.

In a time when the word "hero" has lost much of its meaning from overuse, Suu Kyi's life, and the choices she has made over the last 21 years, show exactly what the word means. She has paid what would seem an unbearable personal price, but her focus remains on her countryman's suffering. "If my people aren't free, how can I say I'm free," she asked after ending yet another term of house arrest.

Precisely because Suu Kyi's bravery knows no bounds, there is a good chance that, like her previous releases, this one will prove short-lived.

If there is a dark lining clouding this joyous moment it is knowing that the generals freed her because they feel so strong. They believe they can hold on to power even if Suu Kyi is free. The junta expects to reap benefits not only from freeing Suu Kyi but also from their recent sham election.

The Burmese military, which has ruled the country since 1962, just pulled off an electoral charade in which its own parties—laughably—won 80 percent of the vote. The election rules were so out-

rageous that Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy, the most popular party in the country, decided to boycott the vote. As a result, it was forced to disband, at least in theory. But the NLD remains a force for change, as Suu Kyi has made clear.

The Nobel Peace Prize winner could have walked free a long time ago, had she agreed to leave the country. The generals—who renamed the country Myanmar, renamed the old capital Rangoon Yangon and then moved the government to the heart of the jungle to protect themselves from a population that despises them—would like nothing more than to see Suu Kyi disappear.

"The Lady," as she is known, commands the hearts of her people. But getting rid of Suu Kyi is not so simple. She became an accidental leader after traveling from her home in England to visit her dying mother in 1988. The tide of a student movement against tyranny swept her up. After all, her name alone conjured freedom. Her father was the hero of independence, the George Washington of Burma. But her power went beyond her name. Suu Kyi's hold on the Burmese hearts was earned by personal sacrifice, intelligence and charisma. In 1990, Burmese overwhelmingly voted for her NLD. She should have become prime minister. Instead she became a prisoner, spending most of the last two decades in captivity.

Some of the most powerful experiences of my life occurred in Burma, seeing the electrifying reaction of everyday people at my efforts to see Suu Kyi, or at the mere mention of her name.

The Burmese are rightly terrified of the brutal military regime

that has ground a once-prosperous country into misery over its half-century of misrule, putting thousands in prison, forcing many more into slave labor and leading millions into exile while the generals plundered the country's natural resources. But Suu Kyi's release filled the people with courage. They wore T-shirts with her picture even as government thugs ominously filmed the crowds.

An earlier stint of freedom ended in 2003 when her motorcade was attacked by government thugs, probably an assassination attempt. She was put back under arrest "for her own protection."

The generals fear the Lady with good reason. Within moments of gaining her freedom, the slender woman with the core of steel demonstrated she has not been beaten. She called for revolution, peaceful revolution, but revolution nonetheless. Showing no sign of ill will toward her tormentors, she also said she wants dialogue with the military.

What the military wants is a way to protect and perpetuate its rule under the cover of the new "elected" parliament. The generals want to ease the pressure on themselves and on the Asian countries, China and others, that trade with them despite Western objections.






If the West wants to help Suu Kyi and her people succeed in their quest for freedom, it must make it clear that freeing her was only one step in what remains a very long road to true justice in Burma.

*Frida Ghitis writes about global affairs for The Miami Herald. Readers may send her e-mail at fghitis@gmail.com.*

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

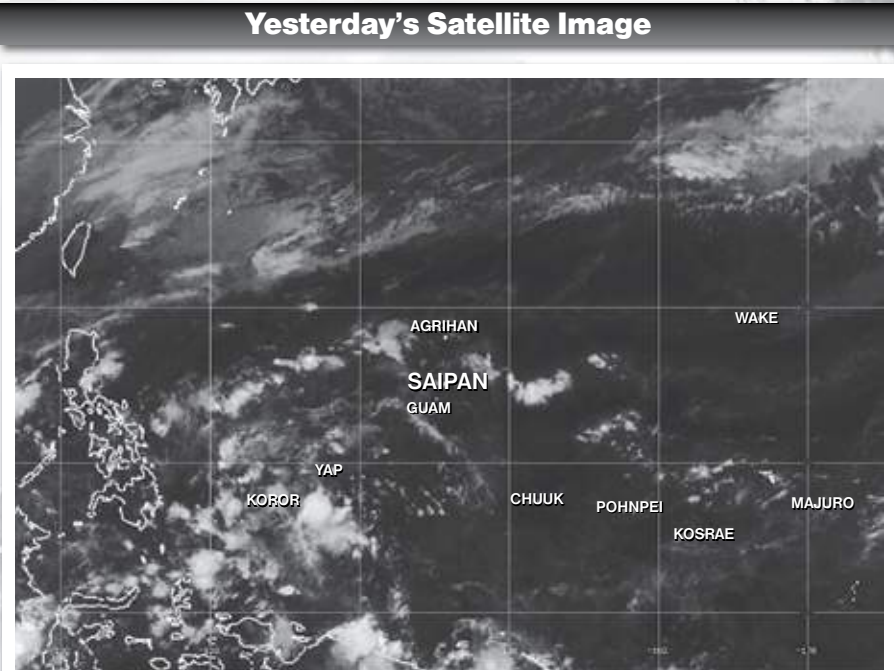
## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°

Micronesia		
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 85 ▼ 78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 82 ▼ 76
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 73
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 75
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 84 ▼ 74

Around The Globe		
Auckland	Showers	▲ 69 ▼ 62
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 47 ▼ 28
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 78 ▼ 58
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 81 ▼ 71
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 47 ▼ 40
Los Angeles	Rain	▲ 62 ▼ 49
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 76
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 73 ▼ 51
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 81 ▼ 67
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 57 ▼ 35
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 50
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 51 ▼ 40
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 63 ▼ 50
Rome	Rain	▲ 63 ▼ 50
Salem	Showers	▲ 44 ▼ 34
San Francisco	Rain	▲ 56 ▼ 49
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 59 ▼ 37
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲ 63 ▼ 49
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲ 63 ▼ 43

Tides				
Saipan Harbor				
12:35 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet	
7:21 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	
12:42 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet	
5:52 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet	



**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2010**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A stationary front stretches southwestward from 25N148E to beyond 130E at 20N. Cloudiness with scattered showers are found along and up to 250 miles northwest of the front. A surface trough running southwestward from 17N138E to 13N130E is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms west of the Marianas within 70 miles of a line from 13N130E to 17N140E. A near-equatorial trough extends eastward from 5N130E through a weak circulation centered southwest of Koror near 5N132E then turns southeastward to end at EQ145E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found over Koror within an area bounded by a line from 7N132E to 10N137E to 5N140E to 2N135E back to 7N132E. A surface trough extends southward from Guam to end near 5N143E. Scattered showers are found south of the Marianas between 13N and 10N from 142E to 147E and southeast of Chuuk within 70 miles of a line from 5N140E to 7N144E. A trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers east of Majuro between 8N and 5N from 175E to the date line.

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	6:21 AM	5:44 PM	Today	4:27 PM	4:44 AM
Sunday	6:21 AM	5:44 PM	Sunday	5:14 PM	5:37 AM
Monday	6:22 AM	5:44 PM	Monday	6:05 PM	6:33 AM
Tuesday	6:23 AM	5:44 PM	Tuesday	7:01 PM	7:30 AM
Wednesday	6:23 AM	5:44 PM	Wednesday	7:59 PM	8:26 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 17, 2010									
DEPARTURES					ARRIVALS				
SAIPAN-GUAM					GUAM-SAIPAN				
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily		C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily	
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6		C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6	
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7		C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7		C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7		C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7	
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily		C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily	
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily		C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily	
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)					NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN				
DL287	6:10am	8:45am	Daily		DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily	
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	Daily		DL286	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily	
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily		DL288	8:00pm	12:30am+1	Daily	
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)					BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN				
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5		OZ607	9:10pm	2:20am+1	4, 7	
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)					SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN				
OZ604	2:10am	6:00am	1		OZ605	9:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7	
OZ604	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		OZ603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7	
OZ606	3:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7		OZ603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)					SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN				
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6		FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)					MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
OZ604/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN		OZ704/605	12:10am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	
OZ604/701	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		DL172/286	7:55am	8:25pm	Daily via NRT	
C09317/891	2:45am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM		C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM	
DL285/173	6:40am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT		OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN	
C09313/933	7:55am	9:40pm	6 via GUM		OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
C09313/893	7:55am	11:00pm	3 via GUM-Palau		C0892/9596	10:25pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM- Palau	
C09603/933	3:05pm	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM		C0892/9596	10:25pm	7:50am+1	5 via GUM- Palau	
C09603/893	3:05pm	11:00pm	5 via GUM- Palau		PR110/C0596	10:00pm	7:25am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	
C09605/933	6:20pm	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		C0934/9596	11:10pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM	
OZ606/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN		C0934/9596	11:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 5, 7 via GUM	
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		C0934/9596	11:59pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM	
					C0934/9596	11:59pm	7:50am+1	4 via GUM	
SAIPAN-HONG KONG					HONG KONG-SAIPAN				
OZ604/721	2:10am	12:00am	1 via ICN		OZ724/605	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	
OZ604/721	2:40am	12:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN	
C09603/909	3:05pm	10:25pm	1, 5 via GUM		OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
OZ606/723	3:20pm	10:35pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN		C0910/9596	11:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM	
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)									

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE									
Airline		ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline		ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota					FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily	
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily		FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily	
Rota-Saipan					FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily	
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily		FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily	
Guam-Rota					FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily	
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily		FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily	
Rota-Saipan					FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily	
Saipan-Rota					Tinian-Saipan				
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily		FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily	
Rota-Guam					FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily	
Saipan-Rota					FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily	
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily		FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily	
Rota-Guam					FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily	
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily		FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily	
					FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily	
Saipan-Tinian					FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily	
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily		FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily	
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily		FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily	
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily		FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily	
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily		FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily	
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily		FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily	
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily						

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- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
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# Nation

## Ethics committee recommends censure for Rangel

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House ethics committee on Thursday recommended censure for longtime Rep. Charles Rangel, suggesting that the New York Democrat suffer the embarrassment of standing before his colleagues while receiving an oral rebuke by the speaker for financial and fundraising misconduct.

Censure is the most serious congressional discipline short of expulsion. The House, which could change the recommended discipline by making it more serious or less serious, probably will consider Rangel's case after

Thanksgiving.

The ethics committee voted 9-1 to recommend censure and that Rangel pay any taxes he owes on income from a vacation villa in the Dominican Republic. The five Democrats and five Republicans on the panel deliberated for about three hours behind closed doors.

In a report, the committee said that censure had been recommended in the past in cases of lawmakers enriching themselves. In Rangel's case, the committee said, its decision was based on "the cumulative nature of the violations and not any di-

rect personal financial gain."

Earlier, at a sanctions hearing, the 20-term congressman apologized for his misconduct but said he was not a crooked politician out for personal gain. He was in the House hearing room when the ethics committee chairman, Democratic Rep. Zoe Lofgren of California, announced the recommendation.

Rangel faced Lofgren after the verdict and said, "I hope you can see your way clear to indicate any action taken by me was not with the intention of bringing any disgrace on the House or enriching myself personally."

The vote against censure probably came from Rep. G.K. Butterfield, D-N.C., a former member of his state's Supreme Court. He said before deliberations that he believed the facts merited a reprimand. A less serious punishment, a reprimand requires a House vote but no oral rebuke.

It's unclear how much Rangel owes in taxes. An ethics committee document indicated he owed \$16,775 as of 1990, but Rangel has paid

some of his back taxes.

The ethics committee's chief counsel, Blake Chisam, had recommended censure for Rangel. The ethics committee could have opted for a lighter punishment, such as a reprimand, a fine or a report deploring the congressman's behavior. Chisam, responding to questions from committee members, said he personally believed that Rangel's conduct did not amount to corruption.

Rangel, 80, ended the sanc-

tions hearing with an emotional plea to salvage his reputation. Before speaking, he sat for several minutes trying to compose himself. He placed his hands over his eyes and then his chin before he slowly stood up and said in a gravelly voice that was barely audible, "I don't know how much longer I have to live."

Facing the committee members, he asked them to "see your way clear to say, 'This member was not corrupt.'"

## NY Gitmo trial spurs fresh debate over detainees

NEW YORK (AP)—The near-acquittal of the first Guantanamo detainee tried in federal court is reigniting the debate over whether to bring terrorism suspects to justice in the civilian legal system. The Obama administration made it clear Thursday that its position has not changed.

Justice Department spokesman Matthew Miller said in Washington that the administration will continue to rely on a combination of civilian courts and military tribunals to handle terrorism cases.

His comments came a day after Ahmed Ghailani was acquitted in federal court in New York on all but one of more than 280 charges that he took part in the al-Qaida bombings of two U.S. embassies in Africa. The twin attacks in 1998 killed 224 people, including a dozen Americans.

Miller described the conspiracy conviction as "another in a long line of verdicts where federal civilian courts have shown the ability to deliver fair trials and long sentences." And

White House spokesman Robert Gibbs pointed out that Ghailani still faces a heavy penalty that will ensure he "isn't going to threaten American lives"—a minimum of 20 years in prison and a maximum of life.

Still, the outcome turned up the volume on the chorus of Republicans and other opponents of civilian trials for terrorism suspects picked up on the battlefield and sent to Guantanamo after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. Among those awaiting trial is the professed mastermind, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed.

Some legal experts warned that Wednesday's verdict damaged the argument for trying detainees in civilian courts. They said the case could make the Obama administration more selective in deciding which suspects to put on trial, because of the risk that someone branded dangerous by the government could be acquitted.

"They really needed this case to go off without a hitch, to be a showcase. Instead, you have the opposite," said Aitan Goel-

man, a former federal prosecutor in New York now in private practice in Washington. "Civilian juries do screwy things," he said. "There's horse trading in jury verdicts."

Michigan Rep. Pete Hoekstra, the top Republican on the House Intelligence Committee, said the verdict confirms that the Obama administration's decision to try Guantanamo detainees in civilian courts "was a mistake and will not work."

"This case was supposed to be the easy one, and the Obama administration failed—the Gitmo cases from here on out will only get more difficult," he said in a statement.

Civil rights groups and Democrats countered that the prosecution proves the civilian legal system works, even for Guantanamo detainees.

Laura Pitter, a counterterrorism adviser for Human Rights Watch who monitored the Ghailani trial, said the verdict "will have finality and be viewed as credible and legitimate by observers and the rest of the world."



Rep. Peter Welch, D-Vt., listens as left, as Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., right, speaks on behalf of Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., center, Thursday, Nov. 18, 2010, on Capitol Hill in Washington, during the House Ethics Committee hearing.

## Grim end to Ohio mystery: 3 bodies in hollow tree

MOUNT VERNON, Ohio (AP)—An unemployed tree-trimmer arrested after a teenage girl was found bound and gagged in his basement pointed the way Thursday to the bodies of her brother, mother and another woman, stuffed into garbage bags and hidden in a hollow tree, authorities said.

The three victims and the rescued 13-year-old disappeared more than a week ago from a blood-spattered home. Authorities said all three were killed there, though they did not say how, and that the tree-trimmer, Matthew Hoffman, gave investigators information through his attorneys that led them to the bodies in woods in central Ohio.

"The tragedy today is just devastating," said Knox County prosecutor John Thatcher. "The results aren't what we wanted them to be."

Knox County Sheriff David Barber said part of the tree had to be cut away to remove the remains.

"The tree was hollow to a point," the sheriff said, adding it would be speculation to understand how the remains were put

into the tree.

Hoffman, an ex-convict who spent six years in a Colorado prison on arson and other charges, remained jailed on charges of kidnapping the girl, Sarah Maynard, and is the only suspect in the killings, Barber said.

The 30-year-old has appeared in court but has not entered a plea. Knox County Public Defender Bruce Malek, who is representing Hoffman, said Thursday that he could not comment.

Sarah, her mother, Tina Herrmann, her 11-year-old brother, Kody Maynard, and family friend Stephanie Sprang were reported missing after Herrmann failed to show up for work at a local Dairy Queen on Nov. 10.

A day later, a deputy found what authorities called an unusual amount of blood inside her home, and her pickup truck was found near the campus of Kenyon College. Hoffman was questioned that same day—Barber said police found him sitting in his car near a bike trail near where the pickup was found.

A SWAT team found Sarah over the weekend in the basement of Hoffman's home in

Mount Vernon, about 40 miles northeast of Columbus. Investigators would not discuss details of her ordeal but have said she is doing well, considering the circumstances.

"We're inspired by Sarah's bravery," Barber said. He said Sarah was home at the time of the killings but added, "What she saw, I can't speak to that."

A day after finding Sarah, authorities conceded that the others were likely dead. Still, volunteers and authorities on the ground and in the air continued to search ponds, vacant buildings and bike trails for Kody, 32-year-old Herrmann and 41-year-old Sprang.

The remains were found in a wildlife preserve in Fredericktown, about a 15-mile drive from Hoffman's home and about a 20-mile drive from the Herrmann home. The rural site is about a quarter mile from two churches, and an Amish horse-drawn buggy passed after three white hearses had driven away.

An officer remained at the site with a sheriff's cruiser and an Ohio Department of Natural Resources vehicle as darkness began to fall.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Accused kidnapper's wife testifies at Smart trial

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—The estranged wife of the man charged with the abduction of Elizabeth Smart testified Thursday that the beginning of their 25-year marriage was hellish because he was so controlling. Wanda Eileen Barzee took the witness stand to testify for the defense at the trial of Brian David Mitchell. Like others who have testified about Mitchell, Barzee gave a portrait of two men. One is kind and supportive. The other is erratic, demanding, and appears to be increasingly taking direction from religious revelations he claimed to experience, according to Barzee's testimony. "He was possessive and controlling, and there would be arguments," an emotional and visibly nervous Barzee said in a quiet voice.

#### 12 arrested, 2 more sought in Neb. gang raids

GRAND ISLAND, Neb. (AP)—State and federal law enforcement officers launched a massive operation against a central Nebraska gang with international ties, arresting 12 suspected members during raids across this small manufacturing hub surrounded by farmland, authorities said Thursday. Officials said the roundup of

suspects—some of them arrested before dawn Thursday—largely decapitated the local gang that was blamed for much of the crime in Grand Island, a city of about 50,000 people 125 miles west of Omaha. Two other people were still being sought Thursday afternoon. Some 120 officers from the FBI, Department of Homeland Security and local law enforcement agencies were involved in the raids.

#### Iraq vet convicted in slaying of college student

OPELIKA, Ala. (AP)—A former Army soldier who claimed to be mentally disturbed from his deployment in Iraq was convicted of capital murder Thursday in the abduction and shooting death of an Auburn University student from Georgia. Jurors deliberated about six-and-a-half hours over two days before convicting Courtney Lockhart, 26, of rural Smith Station, in the killing of 18-year-old freshman Lauren Burk of Marietta, Ga. Wearing a black suit, Lockhart sat calmly with his lawyers and showed no emotion when Circuit Judge Jacob Walker read the verdict. Burk's family members, mostly sitting behind the prosecution table, began hugging each other and patting each other on the back.



# Asia

## Myanmar democracy icon calls her detention illegal

**YANGON, Myanmar (AP)**—Myanmar's democracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi said Thursday that her recent release from seven years of detention did not signal a softening in the military's harsh, decades-long rule of the Southeast Asian nation. In an interview with The Associated Press, Suu Kyi called her detention illegal and said she was released simply because the decreed period of her house arrest had ended.

"I don't think there were any other reasons," she said in her small, Spartan office, decorated with little except a vase of flowers and a black and white photograph of her late father, Aung San, who helped lead colonial Burma to independence from Britain. "My detention had come to an end, and there were no immediate means of extending it."

The 65-year-old Nobel Peace laureate, set free from her lakeside residence Saturday, has made it clear she plans to pursue her goal of a democratic Myanmar, which is also known as Burma, but has been careful not to verbally challenge the junta or call for its overthrow.

Her most recent detention began in 2003 after she was



In this Nov. 17, 2010 photo, Myanmar's democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi visits a shelter for HIV/AIDS patients, on the outskirts of Yangon, Myanmar.

blamed for an attack by government thugs on her convoy. It was extended in 2009 when she briefly sheltered an American man who swam uninvited to her decaying villa.

"I never should have faced detention," she said.

Since Saturday, though, the generals and their longtime archrival have had no contact.

"I haven't seen any sign of

the junta at all since I came out. They haven't made any move to let us know what they feel about the situation," said Suu Kyi, an unflappable and deeply charismatic woman who speaks with an upper-class British accent.

She added, though, that her goals would not change: "I had better go on living until I see a democratic Burma," she said, laughing.

## Taekwondo row spurs anti-China feeling in Taiwan

**TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)**—The disqualification of a Taiwanese athlete at the Asian Games competition has set off a furor on this island of 23 million people, with media outlets and thousands of citizens accusing China of foul play.

The case of Yang Shu-chun underscores the fraught nature of relations across the 100-mile- (160-kilometer-) wide Taiwan Strait 2 1/2 years after Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou began a largely successful effort to lower tensions between the once-bitter rivals amid a welter of groundbreaking economic deals.

It comes just days after Ma warned Beijing that further Chi-

nese efforts to undermine Taiwanese sovereignty could harm the reconciliation process. Ma was reacting to the demand of the Chinese delegation at an international film festival in Japan that Taiwan participate in the event under the name "China Taiwan" rather than the usual "Chinese Taipei," to make it appear the democratic island is under China's sway.

China and Taiwan split amid civil war in 1949. China insists the island is part of its territory despite its de facto independence.

Yang's disqualification occurred at the tail end of her match against Vietnamese competitor Thi Hau Vu, when judg-

es ruled she was using an illegal sensor on the heel of her shoes.

Yang had an insurmountable lead at the time, and was seen as a serious threat to take gold. She broke down in tears when her disqualification was announced.

Games officials later upheld the decision against her, but the Taiwan delegation protested, insisting the sensors were carefully checked and approved before her match.

A post-match press conference deepened feelings of rancor, with Taiwanese and Chinese journalists trading barbs, including one from a Chinese reporter labeling the Taiwanese conduct as disgraceful.

ing regret over Seoul's rebuff of its earlier dialogue offer. South Korea said Wednesday that before any discussions could take place, Pyongyang must first return South Korean-owned buildings that were confiscated at North Korea's scenic Diamond Mountain resort.

### Chinese woman sent to labor camp for retweeting

**BEIJING (AP)**—China has sentenced a woman to a year in a labor camp for "disrupting social order" by retweeting a satirical message urging Chinese protesters to smash the Japan pavilion at the Shanghai Expo, an international rights group said. Cheng Jianping, 46, re-posted a message from the social networking site Twitter last month hinting that Chinese protesters should smash the Japan pavilion at the Shanghai Expo and adding on the message "Angry youth, charge!" according to Amnesty International, which condemned the sentence in a statement late Thursday.

# World

## Fidel says happy with direction of Cuba

**HAVANA (AP)**—Fidel Castro says he is happy with the direction Cuba is taking under the leadership of his brother Raul, his most explicit remarks to date about the sweeping economic changes the country is undergoing.

"I'm content, because the country is moving forward despite all the challenges," the bearded revolutionary icon told Cuban students in comments carried by the official Communist Party newspaper Granma and broadcast on Cuban television Thursday.

The elder Castro stepped down in 2006 due to a serious illness that almost killed him. He re-emerged from four years of seclusion in July, but has rarely spoken about Cuban current events, preferring to

use his appearances to warn of what he fears is a looming nuclear war pitting the United States and Israel against Iran.

Castro, 84, remains head of the Communist Party, though in his remarks to the students he gave the impression he had delegated many of his official duties to others when he became ill.

When one student began to ask about a key upcoming economic gathering that would in theory be led by Castro as first secretary of the Communist Party, the former president politely brushed the question aside, telling the students he was not meeting with them in his capacity as party chief.

By way of explanation, Castro then immediately said of his 2006 illness: "I got sick and I did what I had to do: delegate

my duties. I cannot do something if I am not in a condition to dedicate all my time to it."

Castro described himself as a "soldier of ideas" and said that he "did not hesitate for a minute to relinquish my duties," an apparent reference to his decision to step down as president.

He left unclear how much of a role he continues to play in the day-to-day running of the party. The Communist Party's official website lists Fidel as first secretary and Raul as second secretary.

Part of the meeting with the students was carried on national television Wednesday, but Castro's comments about his brother and his decision to delegate official duties were not broadcast until Thursday.

## FBI: Aruba studying missing teen's dental records

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)**—Dutch authorities are reviewing the dental records of missing U.S. teen Natalee Holloway as they analyze a jawbone with a tooth in it that was found in Aruba last week, the FBI told The Associated Press on Thursday.

The girl's father, Dave Holloway, said earlier that he provided the records but added that he had received no new official information on the investigation on the Dutch island in the Caribbean.

"The authorities haven't confirmed anything with me," he told the AP in a telephone interview. "It's pretty much total silence."

Paul Daymond, an FBI spokesman in Birmingham, Alabama, said the agency sent some records electronically Wednesday and shipped the remaining dental impressions. It is unclear when those would arrive.

A tourist found a jawbone last Friday and took it to the front desk of the Phoenix Hotel, said Ann Angela, spokeswoman for the Aruba

prosecutor's office. It was then sent to the Netherlands for analysis, though there has been no announcement on whether the bone is human.

"If it turns out to be a human bone, the investigation will continue," Angela said. "We cannot say when the results will be in."

A forensic scientist in Aruba, however, has said that the bone is from a human female, Dave Holloway told the AP.

Holloway said he received the information from a friend who spoke to the scientist. He did not identify either the friend or the scientist, and did not say whether the scientist is involved in the investigation or otherwise is in a position to know details of the case.

Natalee Holloway, of Mountain Brook, Alabama, was 18 when she disappeared while on a high school graduation trip to Aruba in 2005.

She was last seen leaving a bar with Dutchman Joran van der Sloot, the prime suspect in her disappearance, on the final night of her trip.

### WORLD BRIEFS

### Nobel panel may not hand out Liu's peace prize

**OSLO, Norway (AP)**—The Nobel Peace Prize may not be handed out this year because China is not likely to let anyone from imprisoned award-winner Liu Xiaobo's family attend the ceremony, a Nobel official said, calling China's diplomatic pressure this year unprecedented. Outraged by the award, Beijing has reportedly clamped down on Liu's relatives and pressured other countries not to send representatives to the Dec. 10 award ceremony in Oslo. Ambassadors from Russia, Cuba, Kazakhstan, Morocco and Iraq have all declined invitations to the ceremony but didn't specify the reasons, Geir Lundestad, secretary of the Norwegian Nobel Committee told The Associated Press on Thursday. "For an embassy to actively try to persuade other embassies to not participate in the ceremony is something new," Lundestad said.

### Cholera protesters attack cars in Haiti capital

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)**—Anti-U.N. violence spread to Haiti's capital Thursday as protesters blocked roads and attacked foreigners' cars over suspicions that peacekeepers introduced a cholera epidemic that has killed more than 1,100 people. The unrest followed three days of similar violence in northern Haiti.

The protests come a little more than a week before national elections, and the U.N. has characterized them as political. Some demonstrators threw rocks at an office of President Rene Preval's Unity party and tore down campaign posters. But the protests are fueled by suspicions, shared by some U.S. disease experts, that a contingent of Nepalese soldiers brought cholera with them to Haiti and spread the disease from their rural base into the Artibonite River system, where the initial outbreak was centered.

### 11 alleged gang members killed by Mexican troops

**MEXICO CITY (AP)**—A gunbattle between Mexican soldiers and drug cartel gunmen near the border with Texas killed 11 alleged gang members and prompted the U.S. to reinforce security at international crossings, officials said Thursday. The soldiers came under fire Wednesday afternoon when they were investigating a tip about the presence of armed men in the town of Nueva Ciudad Guerrero in Tamaulipas, the Mexican Defense Department said in a statement. Eleven of the gunmen were killed in the ensuing gunbattle but no troops were hurt, it said. Afterward, soldiers arrested two surviving gunmen who told authorities they belonged to the Zetas drug gang, the statement said. Troops also seized nine assault rifles, four handguns and a grenade launcher and ammunition.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

### NATO fine-tunes Afghan exit strategy at summit

**LISBON, Portugal (AP)**—NATO is expected to set a 2014 target for handing over security to Afghans at a summit that starts here Friday, as the alliance's appetite for the conflict dwindles after nine years of fighting, growing European war angst, and renewed criticism by Afghan President Hamid Karzai. The allies appear to agree the target year is realistic, but that hardly means the war is ending. The U.S. is wary of giving the impression that the original aim of invading Afghanistan in 2001—to deny al-Qaida a base to launch more terrorist attacks on the West—will be achieved by then.

### NKorea pushes again for talks on stalled tours

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**—North Korea pushed again Thursday for talks on resuming a joint tourism project with South Korea, express-



# Maharlika

## PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS

Saturday, November 20, 2010



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Loyola College Nursing students under instructor Jodee Gopeng, second from right.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Shiella Perez, Public Health program coordinator, fills out a form while a Guam Lions Club member looks on.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Students of the Nursing Program of Northern Marianas College under instructor Hervin Jacinto, far right.

## Saipan community takes part in Lions Club medical mission

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

About 360 community members trooped to the Civic Center Basketball Court in Susupe last Nov. 13 to avail of the medical mission organized by Lions Club International District 204.

Some 17 members of the different Guam Lions Clubs arrived on island to bring instruments and equipment as well as volunteer for the inaugural medical mission of District 204.

The Guam Marianas Lions Club brought the vision testing device and 300 pairs of reading glasses. The Guam Asia Pacific Lions Club brought hearing test instruments while the Guam Spirit Lions Club had two military nurses to assist in the medical mission.

Other volunteers included Shiella Perez and Edwin Takai of the Department of Public Health; Domie Tebuteb of the Public School System Hearing Test program; first and second year students of the Northern Marianas College Nursing Program under Hervin Jacinto; and nursing students of instructor Jodee Gopeng from Loyola College.

Members of the public were able to avail of vision screening, hearing testing, blood pressure, and blood sugar testing during the medical mission.

Guam Lions Club volunteers also administered 150 flu vaccines from DPH last Saturday.

Region Secretary Paul Madriaga told *Saipan Tribune* that the turnout for the event was more than they expected.

"We are very thankful to all



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Members of Saipan and Guam Lions Clubs pose with volunteers during their inaugural medical mission last Nov. 13.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Guam Lions Club volunteers administer flu vaccine on patients.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

A Guam Lions Club member assists a patient for vision check up.

the volunteers, sponsors, and the very supportive members of the different Lions Clubs for their participation in this medical mission," said Madriaga.

District Governor Romeo Angel of the Guam Spirit Lions Club said the terrific turnout was made possible through the efforts and sacrifices of all Lions Clubs members on Saipan.

"We thought of this medical mission as a way to reach out to the people in the community. We want to serve as a 'beacon of hope' and make ourselves available to serve the public," said Angel.

Because of the success of the event, Angel they now plan to make the medical mission an annual activity for District 204.

"I want to express my sincerest appreciation to all the volunteers for being a big part of this program. Thank you for your time and effort on this medical mission. Thank you also to all of our event sponsors," he said.

Sponsors for the event were Tan Siu Lin Foundation, IT&E, Aon Insurance, Traders Insurance, Micronesian Brokers Inc., McDonald's, J's Restaurant, Star Water, GPPC, RNV Construction, Graphics Inc., JOS Corporation, DL Corporation, AGA Enterprises, and Ionique Solutions.

Lions Club International is the world's largest service club organization with more than 1.3 million members in about 45,000 clubs around the world. Since 1917, Lions clubs have aided the blind and visually impaired and made a strong commitment to community service and serving youth throughout the world.



# Consulate sets December schedule for livelihood module

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Philippine Consulate General office on Saipan has announced the continuation of the Livelihood Modules on Video CDs viewing next month for Filipinos on island.

The Consulate said the attendance at the livelihood modules

presentation in the past months encouraged them to continue offering the modules and released the December schedule.

The *Gabay sa Negosyo* (Business Guides) VCDs obtained from the Technology Resource Center provide Filipinos on Saipan with information on various livelihood and small business opportunities

in the Philippines.

The livelihood modules help educate them about alternative sources of livelihood and supplement reintegration programs for overseas Filipino workers.

The livelihood modules for December are as follows:

- Nov. 30 to Dec. 3  
Meat and Fish Processing
- Dec. 6

Requisite Courses (Basic Financial Management And Pangangasiwa ng Maliit na Negosyo)

- Dec. 6 to 10  
Chocolate and Candy Making
- Dec. 13 to 17  
Pastry Making and Cake Decorating
- Dec. 20 to 23  
Aroma Candle and Potpourri Making

Individuals interested to watch the livelihood modules are required to watch two basic VCDs: Pangangasiwa ng Negosyo and Basic Financial Management.

The video presentations will be held during office hours from 9am to 4pm at Room 502 of the Marianas Business Plaza.

Participants must bring their own writing materials for note taking. Only 12 seats are available for each viewing. Those who do not have reserved seats will only be allowed in the room if there are vacant slots.

For reservation, call the Consulate at 234-1848, 234-1850 or 234-1851 and look for Hazel Mendoza.



## OFFICIAL TRANSFER

Engineers Randy Jacob and Jojo Saracho from Ericco LLC sign documents formalizing their transfer to Maeda Pacific Corp. With them during the contract signing are Maeda Pacific Corp. president Tom Nielsen and Vantage Product's Jay Cassidy.



# Population explosion looms in PH, says official

By **LIRA DALANGIN-FERNANDEZ**  
INQUIRER.NET

**MANILA, Philippines**—With dominantly young citizens, the Philippine population is likely to continue growing in the next 50 years, according to the government coordinating and policy-making body on population.

In a presentation before the committee on population in the House of Representatives Tuesday, Rosalinda Marcelino, director for National Capital Region of the Population Commission, also scored the need to have a "responsible population policy and political will" to curb the population explosion that she said is imminent in the coming years.

The National Statistics Office projects that Filipinos will reach 94.01 million by the end of this year, up from 92.3 million in 2009.

"We are extremely worried about the population growth's impact on development," Marcelino told lawmakers, adding

that the "population pressure also register themselves on the environment."

"Too many people means too many fuel consumed, the result is cities have become gas chambers and we who reside in the cities are the condemned ones affected by the air pollution," she said.

Marcelino said that while the growth rate of population has been decreasing yearly, the decrease is not significant.

It does not help that the Philippines is a nation of young people, because this would mean continuous population growth in the years ahead.

In her report, she said that 37 percent of the population is below 15 years old and 15 percent belong to the 15 to 24 age group.

"We are talking here of more than 50 percent of the population who are young, and in due time, would become parents. And even if each couple would only have two children, our population will still continue to grow in the next

50 years," she said.

"And because of high fertility and declining death rates, our rate of natural increase is high at 18.4 percent," Marcelino added.

Quoting the 2009 United Nations Development Programme Human Development Report, she said the Philippines lags behind in all indicators compared to its neighbor countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

The Philippines has the highest population growth rate of 2.04 percent, compared to Thailand (0.4 percent), Malaysia (1.6 percent), Indonesia (1.1 percent), Vietnam (1.1 percent) and Cambodia (1.9 percent).

As to the total fertility rate, or the expected number of children born to a woman during her child-bearing years (15 to 40 years), the Philippines ranks highest with 3.3 percent, compared to Thailand (1.5 percent), Malaysia (2.5 percent), Indonesia (2.1 percent), Vietnam (2.1 percent), and Cambodia (3 percent).

And while the average number of children couples have is decreasing from six children in 1973 to three children in 2008, Marcelino said there remains a one child gap if the actual and desired number of children is compared.

On contraceptive prevalence rate, the Philippines is second lowest in rank with 50.7 percent, following Cambodia with 40 percent. Vietnam has high contraceptive prevalence rate of 79 percent, followed by Thailand (71.5 percent), Indonesia (60.3 percent), and Malaysia (54.5 percent).

Marcelino said there is need to shift focus from promoting natural family planning methods to the use of artificial contraceptives as a way to curb the population growth.

At least seven bills and resolutions are pending in the House pushing a comprehensive reproductive health policy for the country, but the Catholic Church is vigorously opposing them.

## WHEN REFERRING TO THE PHILIPPINES

## 'Use PH and PHL, instead of RP'

**WASHINGTON, DC**—The Department of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines reiterated its directive instructing all offices in the Department and all Foreign Service Posts to use the initials PH or PHL, when referring to the Philippines.

The ISO developed the ISO 3166-1 codes, assigning two-

letter (alpha-2) and three-letter (alpha-3) codes for its member countries. The Philippines, as represented by the Bureau of Product Standards, has been assigned the codes PH and PHL, respectively.

Prior to the shift, it has been common practice to use "RP" referring to "Republic of the Philippines," which is not in

accordance with ISO 3166-1. This has led to ambiguity and confusion due to other countries also using the same acronym.

The PH and PHL codes are now being used in airline ticketing, currencies, internationally traded shares of stocks, and an increasing number of Philippine media organizations. The DFA,

in particular, reflects the use of the alpha-3 code PHL in the Philippine electronic passport.

Founded in 1947, the ISO is a non-government organization composed of a network of national standards institutes from 163 countries. Its Central Secretariat is located in Geneva, Switzerland. (PR)

EXCHANGE RATES	
DOLLAR	PESO
\$1.00	= P43.80

## PHILIPPINE BRIEFS

### 3 Filipinas who hid travel papers in underwear held

**MANILA, Philippines**—They were supposed to be "tourists" but the travel documents hidden in their underwear showed that they were actually laborers headed for the Middle East. In a statement, Bureau of Immigration (BI) officer in charge Ronaldo Ledesma said three women who had hidden their real travel documents in their underwear were arrested at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) last Oct. 25 as they were about to board a Philippine Airlines flight to Singapore. It turned out the women, who pretended to be tourists, were actually bound for the United Arab Emirates and Lebanon. The Philippine government has a standing ban against Filipino labor deployment in Lebanon. "It appears that the illegal recruiters and human trafficking syndicates are using all tricks so their victims can avoid detection by immigration officers," Ledesma said. (Philippine Daily Inquirer)

### 3 Filipinos killed in Dubai fire

**MANILA, Philippines**—Three Filipino workers died in an early morning fire in Dubai, the Department of Foreign Affairs said Wednesday. The Filipinos, whose names were withheld, were asleep when fire broke in their rented apartment in Satwa district on Saturday, the DFA said, quoting a report of the Philippine Consulate General in Dubai. "When they woke up, the apartment's receiving room and kitchen were all in flames and no exit can be used," the DFA said. "The three fatalities were asleep in one room together with two of the survivors, who managed to escape through the window," it said, citing the report of Philippine Consul General Benito Valeriano. Valeriano said two of the survivors suffered minor injuries while the third sustained second degree burns in the face, back, arms and toes and is now confined at the Surgical Intensive Care Unit of Al Rashid. (INQUIRER.net)

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# US: Abus may be getting funds from OFWs

By JERRY E. ESPLANADA  
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—The U.S. Department of State has raised the possibility that the Abu Sayyaf Group, which is behind kidnappings and beheadings in Mindanao, is getting funding from Filipino workers abroad, triggering indignant protests from leftist groups.

“The ASG is funded through acts of ransom and extortion and may receive funding from external sources such as remittances from overseas Filipino workers and possibly Middle East-based extremists,” according to the department’s country report on terrorism.

The report dated Aug. 5 did not provide details, but it noted that in October 2007, the ASG had appealed for funds and recruits on YouTube with a video of its leaders—Abdurajak and Khadaffi Janjalani—before they were killed in 1998 and 2006, respectively.

Asked for comment, the OFW group Migrante-Middle East based in Riyadh, Saudi

Arabia, dismissed the U.S. report as “unfounded,” “irresponsible” and “unfair.”

## ‘Extreme paranoia’

“It’s common knowledge that many OFWs can hardly send remittances to their families in the Philippines on a regular basis due to their meager income,” said Migrante’s regional coordinator John Leonard Monterona.

The militant group Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) brushed aside the report as “extreme paranoia.”

“Is the U.S. now proposing measures to monitor the movement of OFW remittances? Will the U.S. invoke the provisions of the Human Security Act on OFW bank accounts?” asked Bayan secretary general Renato Reyes Jr.

Reyes pointed out that “OFW remittances are the reason why our economy is kept afloat. That the U.S. is somehow linking it with the ASG indicates there may be something bigger at stake,” referring to the forthcoming review of the Visiting Forces Agreement between Washington and Manila.

“Could this be another leverage?” he added.

## Report could spark anger

League of Filipino Students national chair Terry Ridon said the United States was “trying desperately to justify its continuing military presence here.”

“They are, however, stoking further anger and protests from our people by blaming our OFWs, our unsung heroes, of being terrorist financiers,” Ridon said.

Teachers party-list Rep. Antonio Tinio believes Washington has an “interest in cultivating the ASG to justify the presence of US troops in the South and it provides a pretext for further intervention.”

Aside from the ASG, the state department also named two other Philippines-based terrorist groups—the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People’s Army and Jemaah Islamiyah—in its list of 44 US government-designated foreign terrorist organizations.

The state department put the ASG strength at “approximately 200 to 500 members.”

# Wall collapses, traps 15 in homes

By NANCY C. CARVAJAL  
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—Fifteen persons, including a baby, were trapped in their homes before they were saved by responding rescuers when a 10-meter-high wall that separated a hollow blocks factory from the houses of the victims collapsed Thursday morning in Quezon City.

Barangay (village) Apolonia Councilor Eugene Magsalin said more than 100 families living on the other side of the factory were in danger of being buried alive by the structurally weak concrete fence surrounding the property of a businessman he identified as Manolito Ong.

“We had already filed a complaint with the barangay about the threat, but the owner continues to ignore us,” Magsalin said. “What happened today was a case of a disaster waiting to happen.”

## Falling rocks

According to a resident of the

area, Edgardo Tanglay, huge concrete slabs, followed by several steel cages, old truck tires and old drums fell on their house at around 10 a.m. on Libis Street in Barangay Apolonia. “We first heard the sound of falling stones, followed by crashing rocks,” he said.

An 11-year old daughter of one of Tanglay’s tenants was taken out of the rubble by residents an hour later. The girl, who had yet to be identified, was buried up to her neck in fallen debris.

Tanglay said the 11-year-old was brought by rescuers to the Quezon City General Hospital for treatment.

He added that it was the girl, then on her way to school, who had alerted him about the sound of falling rocks and warned them of the imminent danger.

“We were trapped because concrete debris blocked the only entrance of our house,” Tanglay said.

The barangay council said it took at least 30 minutes before

all those trapped inside their homes were rescued.

“We have to undertake the rescue efforts slowly because the still standing concrete fence had been damaged and any sudden move could bring the entire structure down,” he said.

## Danger signs

Tanglay told the Inquirer that he personally talked to Ong last year about the danger aggravated by mounting deposits of gravel and sand and other materials used to manufacture hollow blocks stored near the fence.

“Nakadikit na kasi yung graba sa pader. Pagkatapos ko siyang (Ong) makausap, nabawasan ng konti, pero ngayon dumami na naman (The gravel was already stacked up against the wall. After I talked to Ong, the stocks were reduced, but they piled up again recently),” Tanglay said.

Efforts to get the side of the factory owner failed.

# Crisis continues to haunt OFW families

By JEREMIAH M. OPINIANO  
OFW JOURNALISM CONSORTIUM

**MANILA**—Good things never last; bad things linger.

So say two economists on the impact of the U.S. economic recession on the cash position of overseas Filipino workers and their families.

Based on their survey of 107 respondents in Metro Manila, Alfie Maria Custodio of Notre Dame of Dadiangas University (General Santos City) and Alvin Ang of the University of Santo Tomas said OFWs and their families are still reeling from the impact of the crisis.

Nearly three-fourths of respondents cut their spending on food (22.2 percent said so) and recreation (24.4 percent).

Ang and Custodio said these cut-back on spending accrue to the respondents’ view that their savings decreased (60.6 percent said so) as remittances also dropped (45.2 percent said so).

The crisis, which “is still moving across the world... has negatively affected OFW families left-behind through decreases in income, remittances and savings... [thus reducing] consumption and (increasing) debts,” the economists said in a recent forum by the Philippine Statistical Association.

Custodio’s and Ang’s paper also found that the crisis’ impacts on the Philippines include rising prices of commodities (81.9 percent), decreasing family income (45.7), and worsened unemployment (39.0).

Host countries where the OFWs work, for their part, experienced increasing risks for job

displacement (64.5 percent), rising prices of commodities (40.2), worsened unemployment (31.8), and decreased savings (29.9), the paper also found.

Custodio and Ang also found that the overseas-based dependents of surveyed OFW families also did not return to the country (67.3 percent); out of this specific group of crisis-hit OFWs, nearly half looked for other jobs.

Custodio and Ang’s survey came at a time when neither are there reports of OFWs displaced by the global economic crisis nor definite figures of how many were affected by the crisis.

The economists’ survey and report are the current empirical data on the crisis and OFWs’ resiliency.

Other data available from the Philippine government comes from the National Reintegration Center for OFWs (NRCO) and the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA). Consolidated data from both agencies revealed some 12,117 OFWs reported they were displaced in 2009. Most of them said their employers in Taiwan and the United Arab Emirates cited the crisis as reason for shuttering businesses or cutting labor costs.

## Limits

CUSTODIO and Ang said that because of the crisis’ impact on OFWs, their families in the Philippines had to come up with ways to cope.

Respondent OFW families cited seeking extra jobs by household heads (16 percent), stopping allocation for savings (13), seeking help from other relatives (8.5) or incurring more

debts (6.6) as coping strategies.

But while OFWs’ continued resiliency “has somehow cushioned the impact” of the crisis on OFWs, Custodio and Ang caution that “resiliency has its limits.”

However, economist Renato Reside of the University of the Philippines is not worried.

In the same PSA forum, Reside pooh-poohed the strength of the crisis.

Likewise, he allayed fears that the Philippines will still be hit hard by the global economic crisis.

Reside’s own paper on how remittances are affected in times of crisis mentions that an economic crisis’ real impact happens two years after, or what he calls as the “lagged effect.”

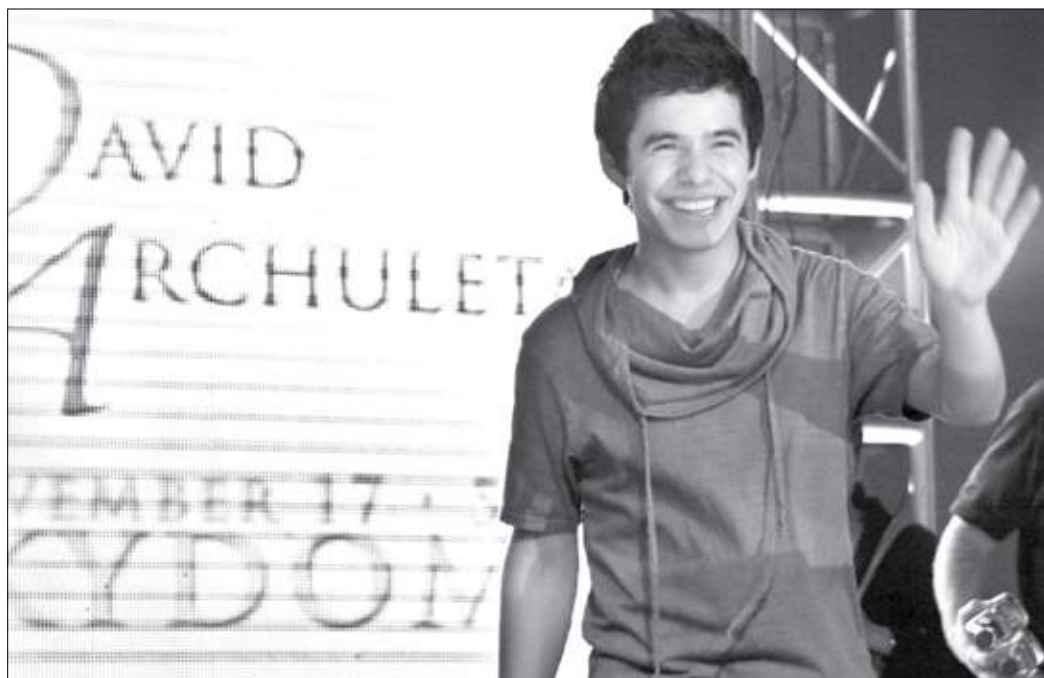
Reside’s own econometric computations saw this lag effect of a crisis on remittances during the 1997 Asian Financial Crisis, thus in 1999.

The Philippines “has averted” this lag effect, he said.

“We have gone past it already, and things are going to recover. Don’t worry too much anymore,” he added.

Reside said the marketing efforts for overseas jobs in 2009 by the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration’s (POEA) as well as the fiscal stimulus of migrant workers’ host countries “saved the day.”

Custodio and Ang recommend that government should “continue assessing the impacts (of the crisis) at the level of individuals, households, and communities” to improve social protection endeavors to vulnerable workers. **OFW Journalism Consortium**



## ARCHULETA IN MANILA

American pop singer David Archuleta waves during the launching of his new album “The Other Side of Down” at a shopping mall Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2010 in suburban Quezon City, north of Manila, Philippines. AP

# PH yanks much-maligned new tourism campaign off net

**MANILA, Philippines** (AFP)—The government said Wednesday it had pulled a tourism promotion campaign off the Internet after just one day, after critics panned the rebrand and warned that unwary surfers could easily end up at a porn site instead.

“Bland,” “Lacks punch,” “Sounds dishonest” were among posts made on popular networking sites about the “Pilipinas Kay Ganda” (Philippines What a Beauty) website launched by the tourism department to much fanfare late Monday.

Critics also panned the decision to use the local spelling of the country’s name, warning that a similar site, [www.beautifulphilippines.com](http://www.beautifulphilippines.com), was pornographic.

Ministry spokeswoman Ev-

elyn Macayayong said the government acknowledged the criticisms and pulled down the website on Tuesday for revisions.

“The write-ups were not thoroughly edited. There were errors, and there are even allegations of plagiarism, that we copied from other websites,” Macayayong told AFP.

The aborted tourism campaign was top-billed by a candy-colored logo of the slogan adorned with a coconut tree, an endangered tiny primate called a tarsier, the sun, and waves.

Critics called for the country’s eight-year-old tourism slogan, “Wow Philippines,” to be retained.

Filipino tourism industry pundit Ivan Henares wrote on his popular tourism blog, Ivan

About Town: “I can’t understand why (we) want to get rid of a brand our country has worked so hard to build and invested so much money on.”

In response, Macayayong referred AFP to Tourism Minister Alberto Lim’s speech at Monday’s launch.

“It is a radical departure from what our neighbors are doing, and to the faint of heart, a bit risky,” Lim had said, defending the rebranding as a result of market research conducted by an unnamed major advertising firm.

Prominent tourist guide Carlos Celdran wrote on Facebook that the government could have done better with “Mabuhay (Long Live the) Philippines,” which the ministry had used prior to “Wow Philippines.”



# Maharlika – PinoyStyle

## Karen's Twitter exercise sparks a commotion

By **DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL**  
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Karen Davila caused quite a commotion in Twitterlandia when she posted a fill-in-the-blanks exercise: "When in doubt..."



**Karen Davila**

She got swamped with responses that ranged from profound to hilarious. Some replies were: "Don't," "sleep on it," "jump but not to another station," "ask for another drink," "do it yourself," "ask your husband."

Does her tweet have something to do with the revamp in the ABS-CBN news department? Karen is back on ANC's "Headstart" and on dzMM Teleradyo. Could she be happier elsewhere?

### Learning experience

Shalani Soledad is taking criticisms about her hosting style in "Willing Willie" quite constructively.

"I am learning more with every episode," she says. "The negative comments motivate me to improve."

What if she falls for Willie Revillame? "Trabaho lang," she quips. "Bilin din ng mom ko na huwag ako ma-in love kay Willie."

But their co-host DJ Mo reveals that there seems to be a kilig factor between Papi and Shalani. "I can sense that romance could develop," Mo says. "Pati ako kinikilig sa kanila."

### K's OK

Karylle is ecstatic about her movie with Diether Ocampo and Kris Aquino.

"I portray the GF of Diet," she says. "Something will happen to my character na first time ko ever gagawin. It's something I dream of experiencing someday. I have to keep it a secret because I don't want to preempt anything."

Aside from the Star Cinema film, K is busy collecting donations for Child Haus, a temporary shelter for cancer patients. She is calling on donors to drop off their contributions in cash and in kind at Timezone Glorietta 4. Other drop-off centers are the Ricky Reyes salons, Luca branches and Mansion House (Pampanga).

Has her heart of gold found its match in Sponge Cola vocalist Yael Yuzon? "Pass muna ako sa questions about love," she says with a twinkle in her eye.

### Will Wilma do?

Is it true that Wilma Galvante might drop her charges against Tita Anna-belle Rama? What better time than Christmas to make peace? Will Wilma do that or will she not?

### Gimmick?

Is the breakup of Gerald Anderson and Bea Alonzo just one of those gimmicks again? Love team turns into a love scheme?

### Lloydie's exes

We have been teasing Ruffa Gutierrez and Ciara Sotto because they have a common denominator—John Lloyd Cruz.

"We don't compare notes naman," Ruffa said, giggling. "A thing of the past na si JL for Ciara and me."

Ciara agreed. "Why should we spend energy pa on things that have long been over? Besides, Ruffa and I are happy with our lives now. I even saw Ruffa with a handsome date lately."

Could it be the mysterious Eduardo whom Ruffa greeted "happy birthday" on the show? Ruffa revealed that JL told her that Ciara was his greatest love and she broke him. Ciara was stunned. "Ngayon ko lang nalaman yan ah," said Ciara.

What's her unsolicited advice for Lloydie's current GF, Shaina Magdayao? "She should be very patient." Patience and love. You can't have one without the other.

### Heart to heart

Amy Perez took time out from her frenzied schedule to celebrate her anniversary with her dada Carlo.

Prior to their dinner date, she tweeted: "May alindog project ako—to prepare for our anniversary dinner."

The next day she tweeted: "I wrote a simple card for my babe. Mabasa niya kaya pag gising niya?"

The Queen of "Face to Face" makes it a point that she and Carlo, her "best friend and lifetime partner," are heart to heart.

### Vivian's back

It was such a delight to interview Vivian Velez for my "Hello Dolly" segment in TV5's "Paparazzi." She's happily married to a German national. Her two sons from a previous relationship with an Israeli stay with them.

"Nakakatuwa na ang hubby and ex ko are good friends," she said. "No offense meant to Pinoys but mas happy ako with a foreigner. Based on my experience, Pinoys are usually insecure of career women so they try to pull the women down. But foreigners will motivate you to achieve more. Of course, it's a case-to-case basis."

She's happy to be back on the scene. "Di ko akalain na lalaki ang issue when I said I wasn't satisfied with Marian Rivera's portrayal of Proserfina in the remake of my movie, 'Babaeng Hinugot sa Tadyang.' What I meant was, kulang sa anghang ang acting niya. It's a complex character kasi. Since I finished film school, I'm willing to direct Marian. Gagawa kami ng isa pang remake of that film and I'll make sure she will be the best Proserfina ever."

### Goodbye Uma?

Uma Khouny has plans of migrating to the United States for further studies. After coming out as a bisexual, is he quitting the biz?



**Uma Khouny**

### Not a couple?

Rachel Ann Go refutes rumors that she and John Pratts are now a couple. "We just hang out with friends," she clarifies. "Di pa napapanahon." There's a thin line between friendship and love. What will it take for Rachel and John to cross that line?

## All the President's ex-girlfriends (on TV)

By **BAYANI SAN DIEGO JR.**  
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—A movie reporter noted during the grand relaunch of ABS-CBN's primetime newscast "TV Patrol" on Monday: "TV5's 'Willing Willie' has Shalani Soledad, but 'TV Patrol' has Korina Sanchez and Bernadette Sembrano."

So what of it? All three celebrities were romantically linked previously to

figures for the show hosted by Willie Revillame, who left ABS-CBN under less-than-amicable circumstances.

ABS-CBN Corporate Communications has released an official rebuttal, quoting its own Kantar Media survey: "Patrol" won over "Willing" in the national tally.

Then again "Patrol" posted just a one-point growth that night, from the week that "Willing" was launched on October 23, according to the same survey.



**Sanchez**



**Sembrano**



**Soledad**

President Nonoy Aquino: Sanchez in the 1990s; Sembrano in 2002; Soledad, in 2009. (Sanchez and Sembrano have since gotten married.)

"Willing Willie," a game show, and "TV Patrol" air in the same time slot. On November 8, when the new "Patrol" crew was fielded, Soledad debuted on the TV5 show.

Now, for inveterate gossips, that's like a prime-time battle royale, with P-Noy as the invisible male lead.

Speaking of Monday, which further heated up the ratings war—with GMA 7's "24 Oras" as the third corner in the ring: Soledad was widely perceived to be the big winner, with "Willing" said to have increased by five points the

On the other hand, GMA 7's Jessica Soho, vice president for news and public affairs, wanted it known that, on November 8, "solid viewers" stayed with "24 Oras."

In fact, the network said in a statement quoting the Nielsen TV Audience Measurement Survey, "24 Oras" outclassed both its rivals in Mega Manila.

The statement said overnight people's ratings showed "24 Oras" with 11.6 rating points, compared with "TV Patrol's" 10.7. It added that "Willing" managed "only" 10.3 during the slot it aired alongside the news programs. The TV5 show ran for more than three hours that night.

The next evening, GMA 7 said, "24

## Ai Ai: I don't mind copycats

By **AMY MOSURA**  
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—With a comedy concert "Akin Ang Tronong Ito" slated to bring her back to the live stage tonight at the Araneta Coliseum, Ai Ai de las Alas is throwing down the gauntlet to copycats, second-rate, trying-hard or otherwise.

The Inquirer caught up with her as she sat during a break on her first day of rehearsals, and we got her talking about the concert, why she decided to finally introduce her closely guarded kids to her fans, and what she feels about the new generation of comediennees. Some of her answers have been translated from Filipino.

Why are you doing a concert now?

My last concert, "The Greatest Performance of My Life," was in 2008. We decided to go back to Araneta because this is my 20th anniversary in show biz. I only mount concerts when there's a special occasion. I'll probably mount another one next year, because my birthday will fall on Nov. 11, 2011, so that's 11-11-11. That's a rare occurrence, so I might as well have a concert. And then we project the next one to be on my 25th anniversary.

Can you explain why it's called "Akin ang Tronong Ito"?

The concept for the show is a tribute to the divas and kings of show biz, so that's reflected in the repertoire, the numbers, the costumes, and even the guests, who are all show biz royalty—Sharon Cuneta, Regine Velasquez, Lea Salonga and Christopher de Leon.

Is performing live still fulfilling for you?

Lahat na-try ko na. "Try"-media nga. But there's nothing like live performance, where people dress up and pay money just to see you. Parang high na high ako kapag naririnig ko silang pumapalakpak.

It's more challenging now, though, isn't it?

Well, I am turning 46 on Nov. 11. Madonna's my idol, and she still mounts concerts at 51. When you're a performer, you're a performer. And so I go to the gym, and I get my energy from the people's eagerness to see me. And then I pray a lot.

Why not do a retrospective instead? Madami nang sumusulpot na bagong komedyante, so siyempre yung iba kong ginagawa, ginagaya na rin. Gusto ko naman bago. Para may bago silang magaya.

Who are you referring to?

"Di ba si Pokwang ginagaya ako? From attire to performance—alam naman natin iyon. Friends of mine who watch her say the same thing, and she admits that I'm her idol, although I could have heard it wrong. If it's true, flattering siyempre, because people won't copy you if your act is awful. Panahon na rin naman kasi ng imitation—kahit sa Greenhills, may imitation.

Does having an imitator irritate you? The more the merrier. There will always be new acts, so your foundation has to be strong. I come from the world of sing-along bars, and we started all that. The generation now doesn't know that we laid the foundations for what they're doing—they don't know they're copying things we did 20 years ago. Salin-lahi yan.

And really, the reason why I've per-

Oras" widened its lead, again in Mega Manila, with an 11.9 rating point, versus 9.5 for "TV Patrol" and 10.2 for "Willing."

Soho told Inquirer in a text message, "It's become a race between news and entertainment, too, and it [feels] good to win."

### Part of the game

It's a fierce ratings war, Charo Santos, president of ABS-CBN, also told the Inquirer. "The landscape keeps changing. We have to keep competing."

Ging Reyes, Kapamilya head of news and current affairs, said she has come to "accept ratings as part of the game."

When she was US bureau chief, Reyes admitted, she didn't concern herself with ratings all that much. "Now, I have to pay attention."

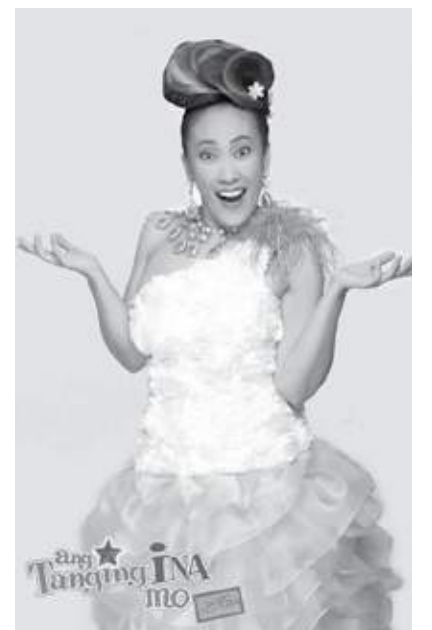
She reacted strongly to Revillame's previous statement that his show offers "escape and entertainment," while news programs only dish out "bad news."

"We can't turn a blind eye on social issues," Reyes said. "Let us not diminish the importance of news programs."

Still, infotainment is all the rage on the boob tube these days.

In light of Soledad's newfound popularity, will ABS-CBN consider adding glitz and glamour to the nightly newscast? How about P-Noy's rumored current girlfriend Liz Uy as weather girl?

"Are you serious?" Reyes gasped. "We are not rattled [because] the President's former girlfriend is with the other station. We all have our place in this industry." *With Marinel Cruz*



**Ai Ai de las Alas stages a comedy concert "Akin Ang Tronong Ito" at the Araneta Coliseum.**

severed all this time was because when I was coming up, I wondered why there never was a female comedian who was the bida... So natutuwa ako kung may susunod pang babae na magbibida rin. I believe this is my destiny.

You're also introducing your kids to your fans for the first time.

Yes—the very handsome eldest, Sancho, and the beautiful and talented youngest, Sofia, have always been "mashow biz," but I've kept them away from the business because I know it's in their blood. And if they get a taste of it, it'd be hard to get their heads back into schoolwork.

So they have to finish school first, although this is the exception. Because this is my 20th year, it's probably time for them to meet the fans.



# Maharlika – Opinyon

## EDITORIAL

### Making monsters

It became clear in the traumatic aftermath of the gruesome massacre in Ampatuan, Maguindanao, a year ago: the rule of violence that was associated with the Ampatuan family in the province could not have been possible without sins of omission or commission of the Arroyo administration. A report prepared by the New York-based Human Rights Watch and issued this week is a useful and sobering reminder of that fundamental but often-fudged fact.

The report is based on more than 80 interviews, the group's official news release said, "including with people having insider knowledge of the Ampatuan family security structure, victims of abuses and their family members, and witnesses to crimes."

The report is careful about its marshaling of the facts, and keenly aware that the situation in Maguindanao, like the rule of violence that prevailed in it, was not limited to the province.

The group said: "The Ampatuans' rise and expansion was aided by the President at the time of the massacre, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, who relied on the family for crucial votes and for support in the protracted armed conflict with Moro armed groups in Mindanao. Under the Arroyo administration, militia forces, which have a long history of human rights violations in the Philippines, were greatly strengthened because of the increased sale of military weaponry to local officials and other support. The administration also failed to address impunity for serious rights abuses: in 2002 Arroyo was directly notified of 33 killings allegedly perpetrated by the Ampatuans, but she took no apparent action."

To this damning indictment, the former president's spokesperson, who had sassy and insensitive comments to make about the Aquino administration after the Aug. 23 hostage-taking incident at the Luneta, could only say, "No comment."

The monsters who planned the savage reception for the Mangudadatu family and their bodyguard of journalists; the monsters who abducted the victims on the highway, including even those who merely happened to be passing through; the monsters who slaked their bloodlust in a killing spree, claiming 57 victims; the monsters who tried to erase evidence of their savagery by dumping bodies and even cars using a backhoe—these monsters would not have existed at all without the active help or the malign neglect of the Arroyo administration.

The facts were clear a year ago, but the Human Rights Watch report confirms what we know and adds new information; it "details how the military and police provided the Ampatuan family with manpower, modern military weapons, and protection from prosecution. Most members of their private army were also members of the police, military, or state-sanctioned paramilitary forces, including Civilian Volunteer Organizations and the Citizen Armed Force Geographical Units."

"Families like the Ampatuans have used officially sanctioned paramilitaries as private armies to spread terror and maintain power," James Ross of Human Rights Watch said. Why was that official sanction granted by the Arroyo administration? Because it was in its own best interest.

The really chilling thing is, the Ampatuans were not alone.

## Human Rights Watch: 'They own the people'

Andal Ampatuan Jr. was so smug about the Arroyo government's patronage that, when he was arrested three days after the killings, he asked the arresting officer: "Which hotel will I be billeted in?"

Thus reported Human Rights Watch, a well-respected international NGO that has done immensely credible work on the Philippines dating back to the Marcos regime. It recently released its latest report titled *They Own the People: The Ampatuans, State-Backed Militias, and Killings in the Southern Philippines*. James Ross, HRW's legal and policy director and who launched the study in Manila recently, actually lived in Manila for a year during the early years of Cory Aquino, doing human rights work. He knows whereof he speaks. "The Maguindanao massacre was not an aberration, but the foreseeable consequence of unchecked killings and other serious abuses," Ross concluded. "For two decades the Ampatuans committed atrocities with a 'private army' manned by police and soldiers carrying government-supplied weapons."

HRW interviewed 50 victims of abuses, their families, friends and eyewitnesses, and spoke to multiple sources to confirm the statements. They also interviewed 20 insiders of the Ampatuan paramilitary forces, who provided "detailed, consistent and credible" accounts.

Among these was Suwaib Upahm, an Ampatuan henchman who came out of hiding to testify two months after the massacre. He confessed to having served as one of the gunmen and was prepared to testify on how the killings had been carefully planned in advance. "In Maguindanao, the word of the Ampatuans was the law. It was either you said 'yes' to [them], or you got yourself killed for daring to say 'no'." "I've seen with my own eyes how everyone bowed to [Andal Ampatuan Jr.'s] every whim and how he ruled with an iron hand." He was interviewed on Al-Jazeera TV, where he used the alias "Jesse." Upahm is now dead. He was killed in June 2010, while the Arroyo Justice Department was still considering his request for witness protection.

What stands out in the HRW report is the complicity of the Arroyo government. "Families like the Ampatuans have used officially sanctioned paramilitaries as private armies to spread terror and maintain power," Ross said. Indeed, even an Ampatuan family member, in denying that theirs was a private army, actually confirmed this: "It would not be right to say 'private armies,' they are paramilitary units.... They are created, armed and funded by the government."

No less than Justice Monina Avelar-Zeñarosa, chair of the Independent Commission Against Private Armies, says that these "civilian armed groups" were created by local governments "thereby providing a cloak of legitimacy to [them] when more often than not they simply do the bidding of their political godfathers." An academic from the Mindanao State University said: "Warlordism exists because it has blessing from the top." And all the way then to President Gloria-Macapagal-Arroyo it seems. A witness told HRW: "Almost every anniversary of every municipality in Maguindanao, [Arroyo] would grace that occasion.... Even when she was still a senator, she visited the [Ampatuan] mansion."

The Ampatuans were known to have partnered with Ms Arroyo and her candidates during the 2004 and 2007 elections. In 2004, the Hello Garci tapes identified Maguindanao as one of the areas tagged for vote rigging and, indeed, in two of its towns, Fernando Poe Jr. received 0 votes (and in a third, a generous 5 votes). In 2007, Maguindanao gave the Arroyo senatorial slate a 12 to 0 win. Significantly, in the wake of the massacre, thousands of voter identification cards were found in the Ampatuans' residences.

The HRW proposed sound and doable legal measures that can be done by both Philippine and international agencies. My concern here however is



### Passion For Reason

By RAUL PANGALANGAN  
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

the Filipino's political attitudes that have inadvertently abetted the government's complicity in warlordism.

It flows from the ideological confusion that attended Edsa 1 and the ouster of Marcos. Notice how we have since applauded so-called "political settlements" of disputes, with moist-eyed approval of how former enemies come to peace. Contrast that to the strict application of the "rule of law" or, at a more general level,

the principled settlement of these disputes. The political aims at win-win solutions, the principled looks at things in terms of right-vs-wrong. In Maguindanao, it was win-win only in the short-term, and only for a few powerful people. The principled way of saying who's right and who's wrong may be costly in the short-run, but we must remember Abraham Lincoln's classic formula: "a just and lasting peace," justice that sadly entailed a civil war.

The second point of ideological confusion is our almost instinctive aversion to the exercise of state power. The Marcos years triggered off an allergic reaction to the use of state and especially military force, that even when it is called for, we balk and hold back, eternally hoping for—come to think of it—a win-win solution where warriors exchange flowers and embrace one another tearfully.

The third is the blurring of the line between state and private power. We seem to think it's always a good thing. Not quite. We must identify when public-private partnerships compromise our sovereign prerogative to govern. For sure our government is woefully imperfect. Under Arroyo, the state embodied the private interest of the ruling family. We have now elected a new president who has promised to restore government back to the sovereign nation. Now he must use the awesome powers of the state to erase those growing pockets of private military might.

## 'La venganza de Fajardo'

Often I complain aloud about being born 20 or 30 years too late to have met and known people like the painter Fernando Zobel, the historian Fr. Horacio de la Costa, SJ, or the physician turned historian and archivist Domingo Abella. I have a list of people I only know from the work they left behind. Reading their books or looking at their art leaves me with a sense of regret for what I missed because of an accident of birth.

Abella brought what was then the Records Management and Archives Office to public attention and branded it as the National Archives long before it became so through a legislative charter. Through his research and publications, on the strength of his personality, and with the right political connection through his wife who was related to then first lady Imelda Marcos, he turned the insignificant bureau in charge of storage and disposal of government records into one of the cultural agencies later moved from "General Services" and attached to what was then known as the Department of Education, Culture and Sports. Abella published his archival research on Bicol in a volume called "Bikol Annals" (1954), but a compilation of his papers delivered at historical conferences here and abroad, titled "From Indio to Filipino" (1978), is worth dipping into for all the obscure information it contains especially on the 17th and 18th century Philippines of which we know so little.

One of the appendices to a long article on the Philippines in the 17th century that deals with internal and external threats to Spanish Manila is a Jesuit letter dated 1622 which was given the title "La venganza de Fajardo" (Fajardo's revenge) and translated from the original Spanish by Fr. Horacio de la Costa. This little-known episode in our history concerns Don Alfonso Fajardo, governor general of the Philippines from 1618-1624. He is best remembered for ordering a moat dug to protect the eastern

side of Intramuros, and dividing Mindanao to create what became the huge province of Caraga. A scandal rocked Manila involving his wife Catalina Zambrano, who carried on an affair with a certain Juan de Mesa. To avenge his honor, Fajardo murdered his wife, her lover, and someone who happened to be in the way.

The following details are from a letter of Alonso Roman, SJ:

Discovering his wife's infidelity, Fajardo decided to put a bloody end to the scandal. One day he told his wife that he was going to Cavite to check on news of an enemy squadron sighted off the coast. Catalina knew Fajardo would be away all day and left the house disguised as a man to see her lover.

Fajardo rode one league from Manila toward Cavite and turned back, hoping to catch the lovers in the act in his own house and dispatch them. Upon reaching home, he was informed that his wife had gone out, so he proceeded to the house of Juan de Mesa, posted guards around it and went in. There he found his wife going up the staircase with Juan de Mesa, followed by a pilot whose name was not recorded. Fajardo ran his sword through the pilot and ran after the lovers. The pilot ran outside and asked for help, but the guards stationed by Fajardo completed the job.

Juan de Mesa and Catalina Zambrano separated at some point, and Fajardo pursued de Mesa who hid in a drawing room lit by two candles which he extinguished to give him cover of darkness, as it was between 8 and 9 in the evening. De Mesa drew his sword, but Fajardo used a pistol and shot him through the neck causing him to run and fall down the stairs, all the while keeping his sword in hand. Fajardo left him to yet another guard stationed



### Looking Back

By AMBETH OCAMPO  
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

there who wounded De Mesa in the face as he begged for the last sacraments. His last words recorded by witnesses were: "Jesus!" and "Sir, whoever you are, do not kill me. Look to your master's honor."

After wounding the two men, Fajardo found his wife hiding in a room and stabbed her thrice. Catalina then asked to be given the last rites. Fajardo, being a Christian gentleman, left her, sought a priest in a nearby church, and brought

him back to his bleeding wife. He then told her to make a good confession. We do not know whether he listened to her confession or left her in private with the priest, but after she received absolution and was assured of a route to heaven, Fajardo finished her off by stabbing her three or four times, each time speaking words to help with a Christian death.

All three corpses were left exposed to the curious until morning when Catalina's body was brought to an embalmer, while those of the two men were left exposed all day. In the evening they were taken for burial in a common grave.

This bloody story of love and honor is said to have inspired Calderon de la Barca's 1631 play "El medico y su honra" (Surgeon of his honor). In this play a surgeon named Gutierre (without a "z") suspects his wife Mencia of having an affair with an old flame, Enrique, half brother of the king, who had fallen from his horse and recovered near their estate. Gutierre murders Mencia and later claims it was a bloodletting that went wrong. Gutierre, before his marriage to Mencia, jilted his first love, Leonor, on suspicion that she had entertained another man.

Gutierre was more interested in honor than love. Thus, a tragic love story from Manila became part of Spanish literature.



# Maharlika – Samu’t Sari



**THIRD PLACE**  
Davina Magofna is the third place winner of this year’s Education Day Theme essay, “Education Unlocks Mysteries, Reveals Possibilities, and Passes Wisdom.” She is a 6th grade student of Mr. Demapan at San Antonio Elementary School. The Octopus family, especially 6th Grade A, are so proud of you!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



**SPORTS DAY**  
San Antonio Elementary School’s 6th Grade A pose for a picture after an intense day of activities during their Sports Day. Good job, guys, from Mr. Demapan!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



**AWARENESS CAMPAIGN**  
On Nov. 18, 2010, the Kagman High School JROTC teamed up with the CNMI Guidance Center T.A.Y.A on Beach Road to have an awareness rally against cancer and drugs. The combined team worked together by spreading the word about getting rid of bad habits like smoking, alcohol use and illegal drug use. At the end of the rally, the JROTC Rifle Drill Team gave a spectacular demonstration of their talent in front of over 100 volunteers who attended the rally.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



The combined team also conducted a Beach Road waving to help get the attention of passing vehicles to notice the banners against drugs, tobacco and alcohol.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A double birthday shoutout going out to Vaughn “Bones” Hofschneider and Ana Rekemesik, who celebrate their birthdays today, Nov. 20, 2010! May you all be blessed with many more birthdays to come! Enjoy your day and cheers to another year! Greetings coming out from all your MHS 1997 classmates!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Belated happy 54th birthday to Rosita Waldron, who celebrated her special day on Nov. 19, 2010! May your day be blessed and many more to come. Greetings coming from Dennis, Linda, Daisyanne, and Peter Ngeskebei.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy, happy birthday greetings going out to Carol “Shortcake” Chargualaf who is celebrating her birthday today! May you party till the break of dawn like the rock star that you are and may all your birthday wishes and dreams come true! Much love coming out from your family and friends, most especially Charisma!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy, happy birthday going out to Mark Kevin Magabo who celebrates his birthday today, Nov. 20! May you have an awesome day surrounded by family and friends!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy 11th birthday to my girl, Vian Camille Limes Wabol! Greetings come from Dad, Mom, and Nygel.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday Michelle Atalig! Here’s wishing you good health and happiness today, tomorrow, and always! We love you! From your loving family and friends!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday Francis Castro! Here’s wishing you all the fun and excitement that only birthdays can bring! From your loving family and friends!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 9th birthday to Nathan P. Mingefiy! Wishing you all the best on your very special day. Enjoy and God bless. Coming from Mom, Dad, Bingbing and the entire family.



Happy 2nd birthday to Luis Anthony Magofna Reyes! We love you so much and wish for many more to come! Greetings coming from your Basa-Onio family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



A big birthday shoutout to Christina S.P. Tudela! Happy 18th birthday! We hope you have a great one and many more to come! The day is yours to enjoy! Much love coming out from your husband, family, and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



# Young Style

## Now he's really made it! Obama out with kids book

By JOCELYN NOVECK  
AP NATIONAL WRITER

**NEW YORK (AP)**—He's the leader of the free world, and he's won a Nobel Peace Prize. But only now, by one measure, is Barack Obama finally truly famous:

He's written a children's book.

With "Of Thee I Sing: A Letter to My Daughters," a picture book for readers three and up that hit bookstores Tuesday (it was announced in September), the president joins a long list of famous folk who've penned children's books: Madonna, John Travolta, Katie Couric, Will Smith, Paul McCartney, Whoopi Goldberg, Jamie Lee Curtis, Jay Leno, Jerry Seinfeld, Steve Martin, John Lithgow.

Even Obama's current secretary of state, Hillary Rodham Clinton, wrote one—when she was first lady, a book of children's letters to White House pets. The late Ted Kennedy wrote about Washington as viewed by his dog. On the other side of the political spectrum, conservative commentator Glenn Beck published a Christmas picture book last year, and Lynne Cheney has written several children's books.

Obama, who is donating his proceeds to a scholarship fund for children of disabled and fallen soldiers administered by the Fisher House Foundation, isn't even the only president to pen a children's book. Theodore Roosevelt and Jimmy Carter wrote books for young people, and John F. Kennedy had a young readers edition of his "Profiles in Courage."

Obama actually wrote "Of Thee I Sing" in 2008, after he was elected but before taking office, publishers said in September. It is illustrated by Loren Long, whose many credits include writing and illustrating the children's stories "Otis" and "Drummer Boy."

The book, published by Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, was already selling well Tuesday—it was No. 3 on Amazon.com's children's best-seller list, and No. 15 on the site's overall list.

But Obama, whose previous works are million sellers ("The Audacity of Hope" and the memoir "Dreams From My Father") wasn't the top-ranked presidential author on the over-

all list: George W. Bush's "Decision Points" was No. 1.

On the cover of "Of Thee I Sing" is a whimsical drawing of Malia and Sasha, skipping along with Bo, their beloved dog.

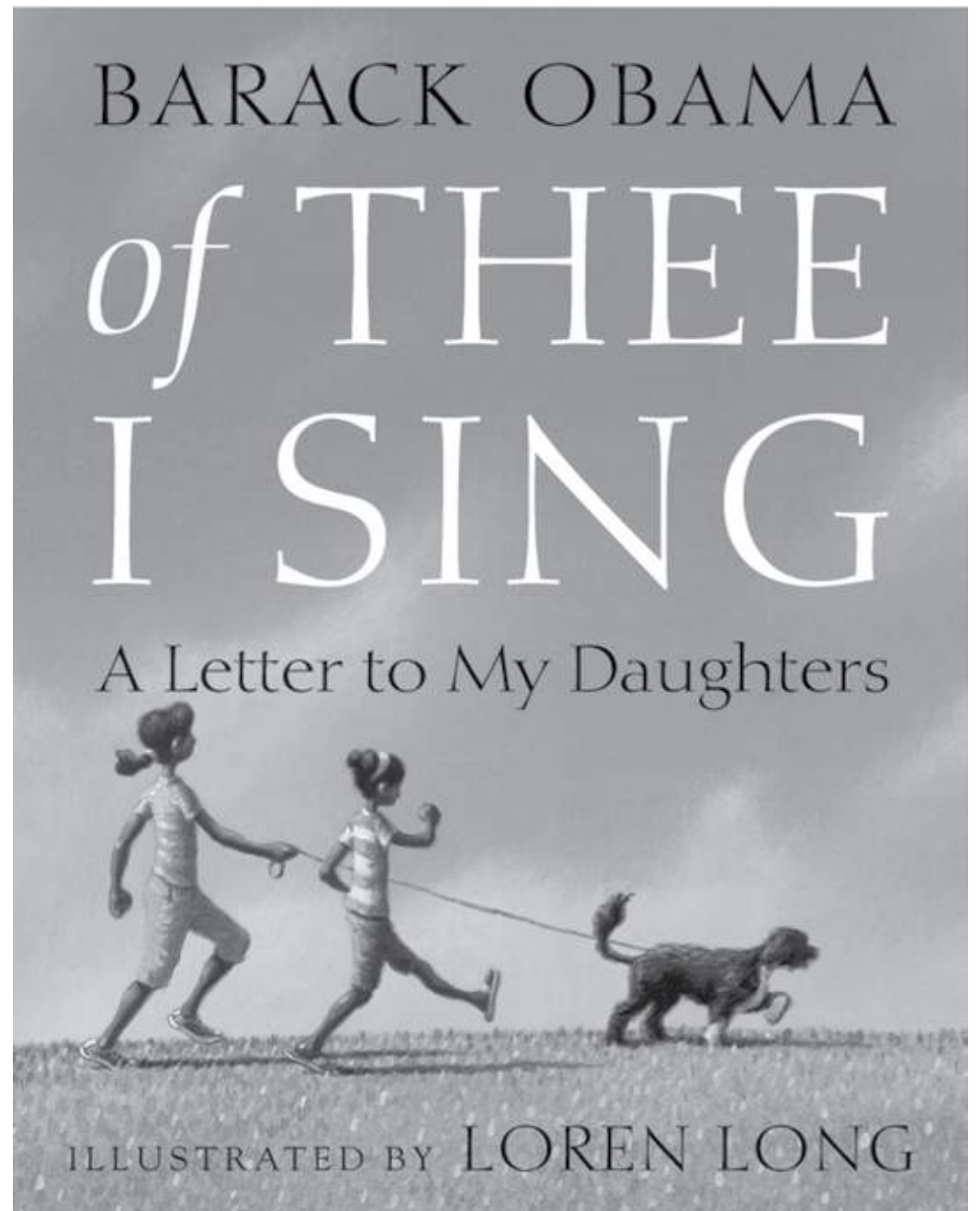
"Have I told you lately how wonderful you are?" the book begins. It proceeds to celebrate 13 American heroes and heroines.

"Have I told you that you are creative?" Obama asks, before describing painter Georgia O'Keeffe, who "helped us see big beauty in what was small."

Albert Einstein, Obama writes, "turned pictures in his mind into great advances in science." Jackie Robinson, the pioneering black major league baseball player, "showed us all how to turn fear to respect and respect to love."

Sioux leader Sitting Bull, he writes, "healed broken hearts and broken promises." Singer Billie Holiday "sang beautiful blues to the world."

Hellen Keller "taught us to look at and listen to each other." Maya Lin designed the Vietnam Veterans Memorial "to thank the many who fought for equality." Jane Addams, the social reformer and philanthropist, "opened doors and gave people hope."



Of Thee I Sing: A Letter to My Daughters

Also honored is Martin Luther King Jr., who "gave us a dream that all races and creeds would walk hand in hand," and astronaut Neil Armstrong, whose lunar leaps "made us brave enough to take our own big, bold strides." Cesar Chavez "showed farmworkers their own power when they felt they had none."

Finally there are two former presidents: Abraham Lincoln, who "promised freedom to enslaved sisters and brothers," and George Washington, who "helped make an idea into a new country."

"Have I told you that they are all a part of you?" Obama asks at the end, as he walks off into the distance with his daughters.

It's not unusual that Obama,

a successful author already, would want to write a children's book—presidents often like being associated with the cause of literacy, says Leonard S. Marcus, a historian of children's books. Obama, he says, is effectively using the device of writing to his own daughters as a way of speaking to all children. "He has something to say," Marcus says. "He has a sense of history, and of the hunger for role models."

Marcus likens Obama's book to a cross between Roosevelt's book of letters to his children and Kennedy's book, which emphasized heroes. The president's goals in writing it clearly differ, he says, from that of some celeb-

rities, who write children's books as sort of a publicity stunt.

"It helps get the authors on TV," says Marcus, author of "Minders of Make Believe." "And publishers use these books as a way to lure customers into the bookstores, hopefully to buy something else." Among the more respected celebrity children's authors, he says: Jamie Lee Curtis and John Lithgow.

The 40-page "Of Thee I Sing," with a list price of \$17.99, is part of a \$1.9 million, three-book deal with Random House reached in 2004, according to a disclosure report filed in 2005, when Obama was a U.S. senator from Illinois. The other two books were nonfiction.

## Better US standards mean safer holiday toys

By DAVID MELENDY  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The government says tougher safeguards for toys mean better choices for families this holiday season.

But it's important to buy age-appropriate toys, have the proper safety equipment and make sure kids play in

safe surroundings.

Consumer Product Safety Commission head Inez Tenenbaum told The Associated Press on Thursday that tough U.S. standards on lead content are one reason for a decline in toy recalls.

There have been fewer than 45 recalls this year, compared with 50 a year ago and 172 in 2008.

The agency also says it received 12 reports last year of toy-related deaths involving kids younger than 15. That's just half as many as in each of the two prior years.

The bad news: Toy-related injuries are rising.

There were 186,000 emergency room visits last year by kids for injuries related to toys, compared with 152,000 in 2005.

## In Humble Gratitude

We, the family of the late

### Chong Kyun Kim

*W*ish to extend our sincere appreciation to all our relatives and friends for the genuine compassion you showed us during our most painful time of sorrow. We especially would like to acknowledge the many thoughtful prayers, comfort, unending support and other considerate acts of grace extended to us. Your presence and prayers at the daily masses, nightly rosaries and most especially at the mass of Christian burial (Memorial Day) were very comforting. Your kindness has touched us all and we will always remember you in our hearts and prayers.

Thank you very much.

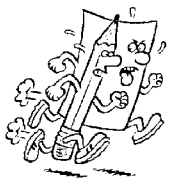
*Kim Family*





## Riddle Card

1. What stays hot in a refrigerator?
2. Why is a nail in a board like a sick person?
3. Why is a joke like a coconut?
4. What herb makes us grow old?
5. If a pencil and a sheet of paper had a race, which would win?



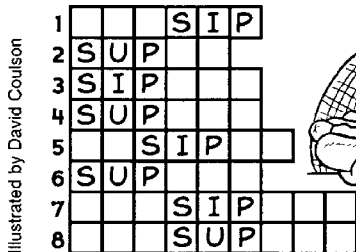
Answers: 1. Mustard. 2. Both are in firm. 3. Because it's no good until it's cracked. 4. Thyme (time). 5. The pencil, because the paper would always remain stationary. (stationery).

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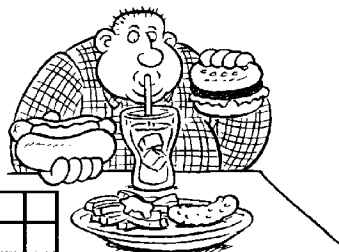
## Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

A "SIP AND SUP" SPECIAL!

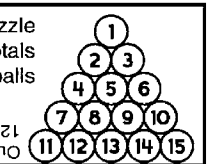


Illustrated by David Coulson



Pull up a chair and dig into this Supper Time Special! The grid above has room for eight words, and they all contain either "sip" or "sup." Hints are given below.

1. A person who tattles.
2. Takes care of buildings.
3. Used to remove liquid from containers.
4. Of the highest quality.
5. Lacking excitement; dull.
6. What a contortionist is.
7. To use up recklessly; exhaust.
8. Carries its young in a pouch.

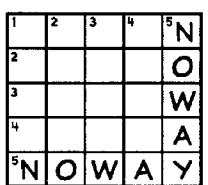


**RACK-STACKUM!** Let's find out if you're a real Puzzle Shark! See if you can re-rack these pool balls so that the totals for the balls along each side will be 34. The three center balls must also total 34.

Our Answer: From the top down, left to right: 1, 2, 15, 8, 7, 6, 7, 6, 11, 14, 13, 9, 12, 5, 4, 10, 3.

**NO WAY, JOSE!** At the right is a Word Square grid. Can you find the four five-letter words that match the definitions below? All words used must read the same across and down.

1. To empty out.
2. Unintelligible language.
3. To provide income.
4. Ancient Greek market.
5. A negative expression (given).



Answers: 1. Gossip. 2. Supple. 3. Siphon. 4. Superb. 5. Inspid. 6. Supple. 7. Dissipate. 8. Marsupial.

## Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was journalist, entrepreneur and philanthropist Esther Dyson who made the following sage observation: "The Internet is like alcohol in some sense. It accentuates what you would do anyway. If you want to be a loner, you can be more alone. If you want to connect, it makes it easier to connect."

■ In China, the Beijing Traffic Management Bureau, which issues license plates, has recently stopped allowing the number 4 to appear on the tags. Evidently the number sounds like the word for "death" and is therefore considered to be unlucky.

■ Here's a startling statistic: If your family is average, you throw out about \$600 in unspoiled food every year.

■ If you're planning a vacation sometime in the near future, you might want to keep in mind Travel & Leisure magazine's most recent city rankings. These rankings didn't involve food or culture, though. For this particular list, readers voted on the cities with the most—and least-attractive people. If you enjoy people-watching, head to Charleston, S.C., which reportedly boasts the most attractive populace, followed by San Diego and Savannah, Ga., in second and third places. The U.S. cities with the least attractive residents? According to the survey, they're Memphis, Baltimore and Philadelphia.

■ Have you ever wondered what the largest irrigated crop in the United States is? It's not soybeans, wheat or even corn; it's grass, mostly in lawns, parks and golf courses.

■ In Turkey, a traditional Muslim wedding lasts anywhere from four to seven days. During that time the bride's family and the groom's family participate in separate celebrations, and the bride and groom are not allowed to see each other until the ceremony at the end.

Thought for the Day: "The secret of life is to appreciate the pleasure of being terribly, terribly deceived."—Oscar Wilde

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## MAGIC MAZE • — POLL

N U R O L J O G D A X V Y S P  
N O K I S F C O A X S B H V S  
Q O I R L S J H D E G E A C D  
A X V T E L E P H O N E R E E  
T R P N C K G C Z L O J R N E  
H F D B Y E A X C V T V I O D  
R P O M K O L U I A G L S I E  
D B Z X C W L E Q U N T R N Q  
O N L J I G U F E O D E X I T  
C A Y X W V P W A R T S P P T  
S R P O N L K H S U P J I O G

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Coaches	Online	Push	Telephone
Deed	Open access	Quaker	Voodoo
Gallup	Opinion	Red	Zogby
Harris	Pre-election	Straw	

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## GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

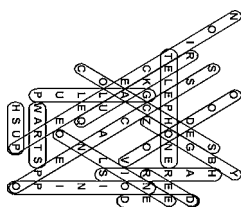
**DIFFICULTY: ★★**

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult  
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	÷		+		13
-		+		÷	
	÷		+		2
+		x		+	
	x		-		16
11		18		14	

1 2 3 4 4 5 7 8 9  
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### MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



— POLL

### GO FIGURE ANSWER

11	18	14			
7	x	3	-	5	16
4	÷	4	+	1	2
8	÷	2	+	9	13

## Canine influenza vs. kennel cough

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER:** Can you give me any information on Canine Influenza Virus?—Jordan C., Kansas City, Mo.

**DEAR JORDAN:** This relatively new virus was identified about six years ago following an outbreak of a mystery illness among dogs at a race track in Jacksonville, Fla. It was determined that a horse virus had been transmitted to the dogs. Since then, Canine Influenza Virus has joined a list of communicable diseases to which dogs, especially those in crowded living conditions like a kennel or shelter, are vulnerable.

CIV is sometimes mistaken for kennel cough, as one of its symptoms is coughing that can worsen after activity. However, unlike kennel cough, CIV is often accompanied by a runny nose, sneezing and runny eyes. In more severe cases of CIV, a high fever is present, along with loss of appetite, lethargy or depression, and sometimes difficulty breathing. Any of these symptoms should prompt a visit to the veterinarian to confirm CIV and make sure pneumonia doesn't set in.

Because CIV is a virus, antibiotics aren't an effective cure. Treatment includes making your dog more comfortable—including cough medicine or other medicines to reduce symptoms—and keeping its immune system



strong through a good diet and vitamin supplements. Prevent your pet from exposing other dogs to the virus, and monitor its condition closely in case its health worsens. The illness usually runs its course in four weeks.

Fortunately, a vaccine for the virus is available. Ask the vet about immunizing your pet, particularly if you plan to place it in a kennel or doggie daycare. More information and a clinic locator tool are available at [www.doginfluenza.com](http://www.doginfluenza.com).

Send your pet questions and tips to [ask@pawscorner.com](mailto:ask@pawscorner.com), or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Find more pet advice and resources at [www.pawscorner.com](http://www.pawscorner.com).

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## Make shiny votives to warm holiday home

There's more to Thanksgiving Day leftovers than meets the eye. If you used disposable aluminum-foil pans or trays from the supermarket for roasting the turkey and for baking cookies and pies, think again before tossing them into the recycle bin. Wash these "leftovers" well, gather any extras you didn't use, and then check out this fun idea for creating "tin craft"-look shiny votive candleholders to brighten your December holiday home.

Once you get started, you'll discover it's a fun and easy afternoon activity to enjoy with your school-age kids during a wonderful long weekend.

Here's the stuff you'll need for one votive candle holder:

■ Clean, disposable aluminum-foil roasting pan, baking tray or cookie sheet and one disposable aluminum souffle-size cup (available at supermarkets)

- Pencil
- Scissors
- Spoon
- Stapler
- Pushpin, small hole punch and/or hammer and nail
- Clean sand or Kosher salt
- Votive candle

### Here's the fun in 3 easy steps:

1. Use a pencil to trace or draw a 4-inch-by-5-inch shape, such as a star, leaf or flower, on the smooth surface of a disposable aluminum-foil roasting pan or cookie sheet. Bold designs in kids' coloring books are helpful to use for tracing a simple shape. Or, you might want to use a favorite cookie cutter for a pattern. Cut out the foil shape with scissors, rounding any sharp edges and smoothing out any wrinkles by rubbing the surface with a spoon.



by Donna Erickson

2. Use a pushpin, small hole punch or a hammer and a nail to make several randomly spaced holes on the foil. If you are using a hammer and nail, place a stack of newspapers underneath for padding. If you wish, draw lines and details onto the aluminum

on the back side with a pencil to create some impressions in the soft metal.

3. Cut a smooth strip of aluminum to fit around the outside of the aluminum souffle cup, overlapping it a bit. Staple it together, then staple the bottom of the shape to the outside of the loop. Place the aluminum cup inside the loop.

To use, fill the cup three-quarters full with clean white sand or kosher salt, place the votive candle snugly in the center and light.

Safety note: An adult should always be present for lighting and burning of candles.

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit [www.donnasday.com](http://www.donnasday.com) and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

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## Life & Style

# Palin's success raises tempers, boosts ratings

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Conservative blogger Kevin DuJan is psyched. He's actually starting to think Palin can win the whole kit and kaboodle. No, not Sarah—though he hopes she'll be the next president. He means daughter Bristol, on "Dancing with the Stars."

The 20-year-old Palin's improbable run to next week's finals—championed by websites like DuJan's Hillbuzz.org—has led to such an uproar that conspiracy theories are floating, some fans are insisting they'll never watch again, and a Wisconsin man actually shot up his television, apparently in disgust over Palin's dancing. "There's been more angst over this than over the 2000 election," quips media industry analyst Shari Anne Brill, only slightly kidding.

The real winner? ABC, of course. The always-popular "Dancing with the Stars" is enjoying a ratings boost, undoubtedly due to the novel casting.

For those whose television tastes tend toward shows less awash in sequins, mirrors, feathers and fishnets, a brief recap: Many were surprised when the shy Bristol, once the country's best-known teen mom, became a contestant on the hit show, where judges' scores are combined with public votes to determine the winners.

But no matter: Bristol, paired with professional partner Mark Ballas, put on her game face and started, well, learning to dance. Her effort was clear; so was her lack of skill and experience.

Flash forward to this week's results show, with the four remaining couples vying for three spots in the finals. First "Dirty Dancing" star Jennifer Grey was declared safe, then Disney Channel's Kyle Massey.

## Doc says he used 'Octomom' in fertility study

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—The fertility doctor for "Octomom" Nadya Suleman said Thursday she agreed to be implanted with 12 embryos and knew she was part of a study on fertility methods, disputing a prosecutor's assertion that Suleman was an unwitting human subject.

The hearing became heated on its final day, as lawyers clashed over whether Suleman knew about the study conducted by Dr. Michael Kamrava while she was receiving in vitro treatments that produced all 14 of her children.

Suleman is the mother of the longest living set of octuplets in history. She didn't testify at the licensing hearing but has acknowledged that her desire for a huge family led her to repeated in vitro treatments with Kamrava.

Kamrava retold the witness stand ahead of closing arguments to answer questions about the study. Deputy Attorney General Judith Alvarado repeatedly asserted through questioning that Suleman could not have known that she was a test subject.

Asked how Suleman knew about the study, Kamrava said, "She heard about

It came down to Palin and singer Brandy, who had wowed the judges with her sultry tango, earning a perfect score. When Palin was declared safe, Brandy was speechless, and the jaw of Grey's partner, Derek Hough, quite literally dropped.

The next morning, "Dancing" fan

er." And yet, she adds, she herself didn't vote.

That's a key point, media analyst Brill says. "A lot of people out there are watching but not voting."

So who does vote? Obviously, people who really, really care. Like DuJan, the conservative activist. A former

Democrat, he turned into a major Sarah Palin fan after Hillary Rodham Clinton lost the Democratic nomination in 2008.

"Are you planning on hosting a Team Bristol Monday Night Dancing Watch party?" reads a post on his website. "You ... can actually vote together and send Bristol over the top ... while sending Leftist heads into meltdown."

In an interview, DuJan said the public support for Palin was a sign of real affection and a desire to reward her after her ordeal under the harsh media spotlight—both as an unmarried pregnant teen, and now with the snide comments about her dancing.

"Think of all the things they've said about Bristol," he said. "This would never be allowed to happen to Chelsea Clinton, or the Gore daughters, or God forbid the Obama daughters. Support for her is real."

And besides, "I think she's a marvelous dancer. She's the only one whose performances have improved every single week."

DuJan defends a tactic that has gotten some critics angry: The use of fake e-mail addresses and multiple phone numbers to let people exceed their vote limit.

People can vote by phone, text or online—with the first two methods possible for 30 minutes after the show and

they understand the possible impact, procedures and duration of the study. Suleman's attorney and spokesperson Jeff Czech said he hasn't been able to reach her to get details on what she knew about the study.

Food and Drug Administration investigator Donna Tartaglino Besone testified earlier that she met with Kamrava at his Beverly Hills clinic earlier this year, conducting an announced five-day inspection of his equipment and documentation.

Inspectors were seeking information on a method Kamrava created and uses in which a catheter inserting embryos into the uterine lining is guided by a tiny camera. Typically, in vitro is done blind, without a guiding scope.

Kamrava testified the procedure allows him to avoid scratching the uterine walls with the catheter and to find an ideal area of the lining to implant the embryos.

Fenton said during his closing argument that Suleman left Kamrava with no choice when she insisted on having all 12 embryos implanted and refused to consent to freezing any of them.



In this Monday, Nov. 15, 2010 publicity image released by ABC, Bristol Palin performs during the celebrity dance competition series, "Dancing with the Stars," in Los Angeles.

## Bristol Palin apologizes for Facebook rant

**ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)**—Bristol Palin is apologizing for herself and her younger sister for their Facebook rant against posters criticizing their family. Palin posted the apology on her Facebook page, saying she and her 16-year-old sister Willow "shouldn't have reacted to negative comments about our family. We apologize."

Willow Palin used a homophobic slur against a poster on her Facebook

page who criticized her mother's new documentary series "Sarah Palin's Alaska." Then, she and Bristol engaged in a stream of offensive comments with posters who continued to slam the family.

Bristol ends her apologetic post by thanking those who are supporting "the great competition in Dancing with the Stars!" She is among three teams who made the finals this week.

online voting until 11 a.m. the next day.

At this point in the season, there's a limit of five votes per phone number and e-mail address. While people must register their e-mail address with ABC.com, if one uses fake addresses, the possibilities are endless.

Which is great, says DuJan, who has sat for hours into the night, voting.

"If people want to have pajama-jammy-jams all night, having pillow fights and roasting marshmallows and voting, then why not?" he says. "Isn't the winner supposed to be the one who has the most passion behind them? Well, this is passion."

On his website, DuJan recently put it this way: "Start calling the moment the show starts ... After that, use someone else's phone to call the maximum times. Then ... randomly knock on neighbors'

doors and use their phones to call, call, call, and then call some more."

In an interview with the Associated Press, "Dancing" executive producer Conrad Green acknowledged that using fake e-mails was possible, but he said security checks are in place to detect abnormal activity.

Still, he doubted many people were doing it—and said that, anyway, fans of any dancer could do the same. "I don't think there's any reason to believe our voting system is unfair," Green said after Tuesday's show. "If someone really wants to sign up for a million e-mail addresses ... well, so be it. But they could be doing that for Jennifer, they could be doing that for Kyle, they could be doing that for anyone."

He added that Bristol has earned the right to be where she is.

## Russell Brand won't face charges in airport spat

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—City prosecutors are unlikely to file charges against Russell Brand over a spat with a photographer at Los Angeles International Airport, an official said Thursday.

The British actor-comedian met Wednesday with prosecutors, who decided not to pursue charges, city attorney's spokesman Frank Mateljan said.

Brand was arrested at the airport in September while traveling with singer Katy Perry, and had been facing a potential charge of misdemeanor simple battery. The incident was captured on video while Brand and Perry were swarmed by paparazzi as they entered a Delta Air Lines terminal. On the video, Brand is seen swatting at a photographer and hitting his camera.

Brand, 35, and Perry, 26, married at a lavish ceremony in India last month.

A security detail traveling with Brand was accused of roughing up four photographers, including one for The Associated Press, during an outing at a wild tiger reserve in India the day before the couple's wedding. Two men from the wedding party later apologized for the incident, which involved taking the photographers' car keys and stranding them in the tiger reserve.

Because of the apology, no formal police investigation was opened. None of the photographers sought medical care.

Mateljan said a prosecutor would meet with the photographer involved in the LAX incident on Friday. The photographer, whose name was not released, had placed Brand under a citizen's arrest.



In this Oct. 13, 2010 file photo, actor Russell Brand appears at a book signing for his memoir "My Booky Wook 2" at Barnes & Noble in New York.

Mateljan said that while the office could still file a case against Brand, "it doesn't seem likely."

The decision was first reported by celebrity website RadarOnline.

Brand was a relative unknown in the United States until he hosted the MTV Video Music Awards in 2008. He has since reprised that gig, and he appeared in the film "Get Him to the Greek" this summer. He is slated to play the title character in a remake of "Arthur."

Brand's profile has also been raised by his relationship with Perry, who has several hits including "I Kissed a Girl" and "California Gurls."





In this Oct. 27, 2010 file photo, singer Chris Brown attends 'The Gentleman's Ball' hosted by GQ Magazine at the Edison Ballroom in New York.

## Another glowing probation report for Chris Brown

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—A judge commended Chris Brown Thursday for working hard to complete his probation for last year's attack on then-girlfriend Rihanna.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Patricia Schnegg said the R&B singer has completed roughly 73 of 180 days of community service and is almost finished with his required domestic violence counseling.

"Out of thousands of proba-

tioners, no one has done a better or more consistent job than you have, and I really want to commend you for taking responsibility and for actually working diligently to complete all the things the court has required of you," Schnegg told Brown during a brief hearing.

Brown is serving five years of probation after pleading guilty last year to assaulting Rihanna in a rented sports car after a pre-

Grammy Awards party.

Schnegg has required Brown to perform physical labor, such as graffiti removal or roadside cleanup duties. She is allowing his work to be done in his home state of Virginia, but she requires the actor-singer to return to court frequently for progress reports.

"Obviously he's gratified and he's working hard to live up to everyone's expectations," said Brown's attorney, Mark Geragos.

## Drew Carey to star in improv comedy series

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Drew Carey is bringing his improv stylings back to TV.

Carey will star in an improvised sketch comedy series that's set to debut next spring on the Game Show Network.

Joining Carey will be some of the comedians who appeared with him on the ABC improv series

"Whose Line Is It Anyway?"

The cast of the new GSN show has yet to be set, Carey said Thursday, but likely will include, among others, Ryan Stiles, Chip Esten and Kathy Kinney, who was a regular on "The Drew Carey Show."

The 40-episode show will be taped on weekends at the MGM

Grand in Las Vegas. Carey, who stages improv shows at clubs there and elsewhere around the country, will continue as host of "The Price Is Right."

Unlike "Whose Line Is It Anyway?," in which the cast worked from producers' suggestions, the new show will rely on the audience to provide ideas for sketch-

es, Carey said.

"Line" was structured and this show is a lot more free-form," he said. Carey added that he doesn't plan to "hog the stage," tipping his hat to colleagues he says trump him at the art of improv.

Carey also is a producer for the new show, which will feature guest stars along with a rotating cast.

## 1939 Batman comic sells for nearly \$500K in Dallas

**DALLAS (AP)**—A rare comic book an 84-year-old California man bought for a dime when he was a teen has been sold in Texas for \$492,937.

The copy of Detective Comics No. 27 featured the debut of "The Batman."

Robert Irwin says he bought the May 1939 issue from a Sacramento, Calif., newsstand when he was 13, and it's the only comic book he kept from his youth.

The winning bid came from a collector who wished to remain anonymous. He placed the bid by phone Thursday in an auction by Heritage Auctions in Dallas.

Irwin, who attended the auction, says he is elated and wishes he had another book.

Heritage sold a rare copy of that same comic in better condition for \$1,075,500 in February.

## Audrina Patridge's stalker sentenced to prison



**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—A Los Angeles judge has sentenced a man arrested outside Audrina Patridge's home to two years in state prison.

Zachary Loring pleaded no contest to stalking "The Hills" star in June but a judge was awaiting the results of a psychological evaluation before issuing a sentence.

The two-year sentence is the maximum term Loring could receive. He was also ordered the 25-year-old to stay away from Patridge for 10 years.

He has been jailed since he was arrested in February outside the star's home. District Attorney's spokeswoman Jane Robison says he received credit for nine months he's been jailed.

Patridge had obtained a civil restraining order against Loring months before his current arrest.

In this Nov. 9, 2010 file photo, Audrina Patridge announces nominees at People's Choice Awards 2011 press conference at The London Hotel in Los Angeles.

AP

## Brunei's Prince Jefri testifies in NYC lawsuit

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Brunei's flamboyant Prince Jefri Bolkiah told his side of a dispute with some former lawyers to a court Thursday, a star witness in a multimillion-dollar money fight with a royal pedigree and a salacious tangent.

Jefri testified matter-of-factly in a Manhattan courtroom, attentive but succinct during hours of questioning about his business arrangements with ex-attorneys Thomas and Faith Zaman Derbyshire.

The prince says the married couple stole about \$7 million from him by doing everything from siphoning off proceeds from a real estate sale to charging his corporate credit cards for personal plums. The Derbyshires say they had his permission for everything they did, and he owes them \$12 million or more in legal fees.

The judge has made it sternly

clear that the trial won't delve too deeply into the doings of the so-called "playboy prince"—and lawyers can't even mention some erotic statues that have turned the case into a tabloid sensation. Still, Jefri's testimony offered glimpses of life as a royal and member of one of the world's richest families, though at times a prodigal son.

Jefri acknowledged that he would summon the Derbyshires from London to, say, Singapore for a brief meeting and held other sessions in Lugano, Switzerland, and Paris.

His lawyers helped run a stable of properties, including the swanky New York Palace hotel and the Hotel Bel Air in Los Angeles, for a royal who said he's accustomed to being called "boss." "Probably because (employees) don't want to call me Prince Jefri all the time," he said.

The youngest brother of the sultan of oil-rich Brunei, Jefri is known for a glitzy lifestyle—right down to gilded trash bins—and for allegations that he embezzled nearly \$16 billion from Brunei's state coffers while serving as its finance minister. The losses nearly bankrupted the tiny country on the island of Borneo.

He denied any wrongdoing, saying he had authority to use state funds, but agreed in 2000 to repay money to Brunei's investment arm. Years of legal wrangling followed as the Brunei government pressed him to turn over the New York Palace, the Bel Air and other promised assets, ultimately leading to a British court order and an arrest warrant when he skipped a 2008 hearing in London.

Jefri testified that he has reconciled with Sultan Hassanal

Bolkiah in recent years.

The prince hired the Derbyshires in 2004 to help deal with his legal problems and run his businesses.

"I was impressed" on meeting the London-based duo, he said, wearing a dark gray suit and testifying in English. "They can work as a team."

Jefri said he had no idea, until later, how his lawyers used the broad authority he gave them.

The apartment in the New York Palace that the Derbyshires awarded themselves for a bargain-basement \$500 a month? He wasn't aware the flat existed, he said. The hotel credit cards on which his camp says the attorneys bought themselves more than \$50,000 worth of jewelry, \$18,000 worth of beauty treatments and \$1,000 in motorcycle accessories? The prince said he didn't know they had the accounts.

## Promise of long-distance love tests a teenage relationship

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** I am 13 and my boyfriend just moved to Colorado. He won't be back home for three years, but I promised I'd wait for him. Now I feel like I'm being tied down. It's not that I don't want to be with him anymore, but I'm lonely with his being away. I don't want to break his heart, but I want some freedom. What should I do?

MISSING HIM IN MASSACHUSETTS



Dear Abby

**DEAR MISSING HIM:** Send him a sweet note and tell him that you're lonely without him and didn't know what to do—so you wrote to me. Tell him I said that while you may love each other, it would be better for both of you to socialize while he is away. This is an important growth period for you both—and if your relationship is meant to be permanent, you can resume it where you left off when he returns.

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** For the past few holidays we have had to accept the fact that my sister-in-law was bringing her husband AND her boyfriend to family holiday dinners. Last year we protested, saying it was ridiculous and that we wouldn't come. (We don't want our kids thinking this is appropriate.) We relented when my mother-in-law said we were being unreasonable because the husband and boyfriend are OK with the situation.

We have ended up going in the past, but Thanksgiving is nearly here again and we're not "thankful" for this arrangement. How do you think we should handle this?

RELATIVELY ODD IN JACKSONVILLE

**DEAR RELATIVELY ODD:** If your children are small, they will accept the "odd" man at the table as simply a good friend of their aunt and uncle, so I see no reason why you shouldn't join the family unless you personally dislike the man. However, if your children are old enough to understand that there is something romantic going on, make other plans for the holidays. To do otherwise would make it appear that you approve of what's going on, which you do not.

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** My 40th wedding anniversary is right around the corner. Although it's a time for celebration, I know I'll end up feeling depressed and empty. The reason is our son "Trent," age 38, who lives 500 miles away.

Trent is great about recognizing holidays—birthdays, Mother's Day, Father's Day and Christmas—with a card, gift or phone call. But for some reason, he chooses to ignore our anniversary every year. I always mention it on Facebook or on the phone, but he never acknowledges it.

My husband says I shouldn't let it bother me, but it does. When Trent was a teenager, we went through some bad times and almost divorced. That was a long time ago, and things are different now. What am I missing here?

SAD MOM IN TENNESSEE

**DEAR SAD MOM:** What you are "missing" is that your son remembers you on birthdays, Mother's Day, Father's Day and Christmas. Be grateful for what Trent does for you and stop trying to force him into remembering an occasion that, for whatever reason, may have unpleasant associations for him. Dwelling on what you're missing instead of what you've got is a prescription for misery.

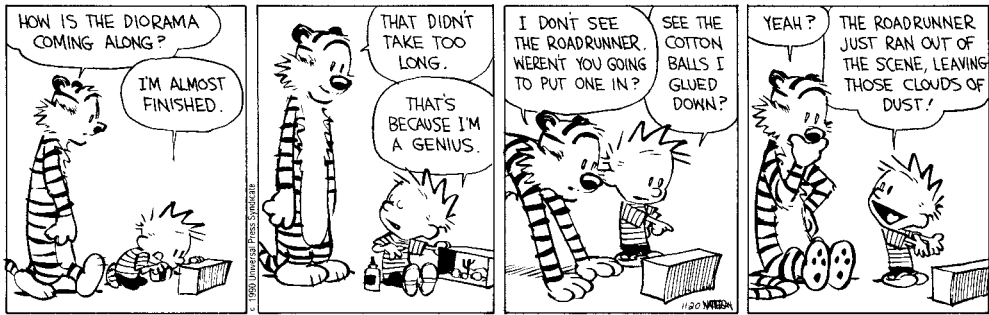
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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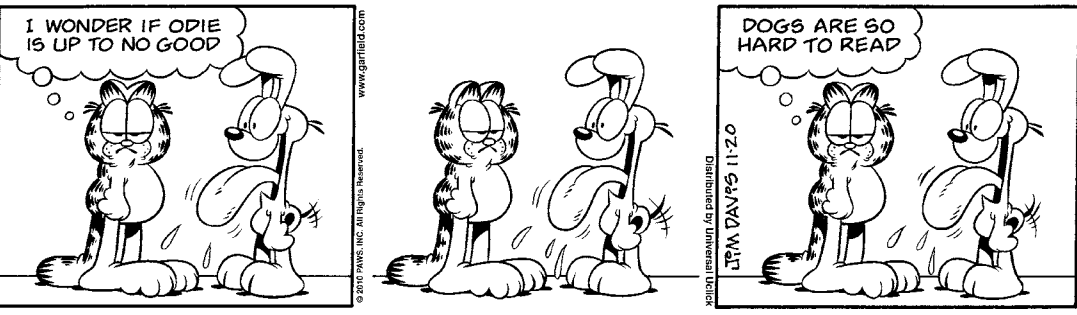


Pastimes

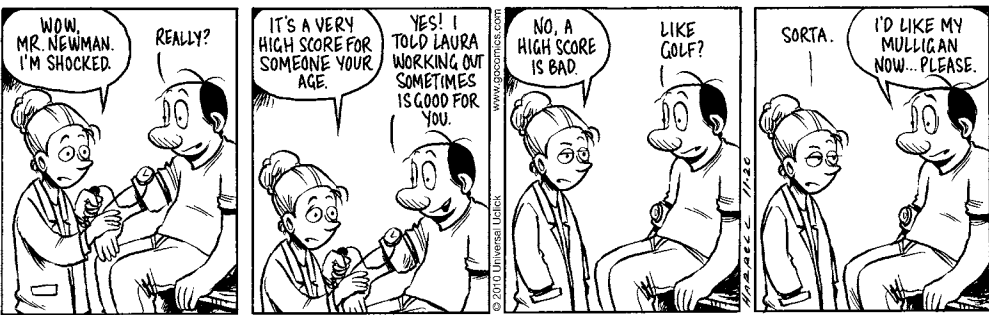
Calvin and Hobbes



Garfield®



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The Duplex



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Send overseas  
5 Temptress  
9 Dinner for Dobbin  
12 Tennis legend Virginia  
13 Bloodhound's clue  
14 Earlier than  
15 On  
16 Canadian Conservative  
17 — U.S. Pat. Off.  
18 Shriill bark  
19 NYC hrs.  
20 Force inhibiting progress  
21 Corn spike  
23 Chowd down  
25 Scottish land-owners  
28 Rids of lather  
32 Memo- rable mission?  
33 Occur- rence

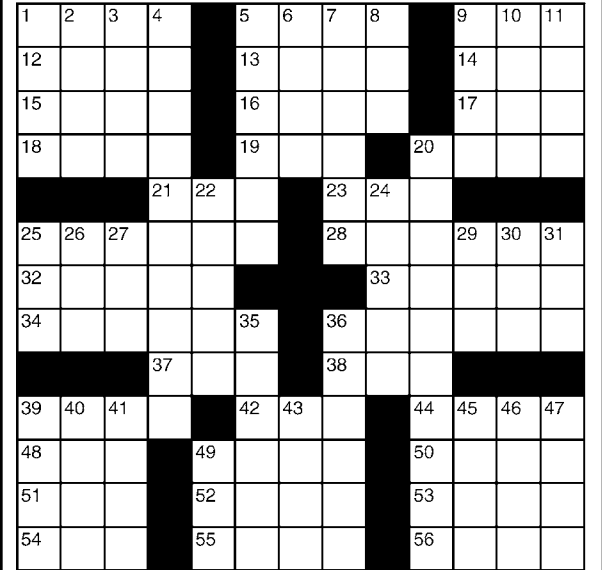
**DOWN**

34 "Good- fellas" actor  
36 Nause- ated  
37 Just out  
38 Spring mo.  
39 Aid at the plate  
42 A Bobbsey twin  
44 Amahl's night visitors  
48 Recede  
49 Predica- ment  
50 Symbol  
51 Family member, for short  
52 "— and the King of Siam"  
53 Dweeb  
54 Cleo's slayer  
55 A really long time  
56 Deuce topper  
20 Money- maker in Colorado  
22 Worship jam  
24 Traffic  
25 Young fellow  
26 Pub order  
27 Actor McKellen  
29 Vast expanse  
30 Type measures  
31 Sloppy home  
35 In pos- ses- sion of  
36 Informal interviews  
39 Arizona city  
40 Wading bird  
41 Recipe meas.  
43 Hathaway or Heche  
45 Maple genus  
46 Clinton's veep  
47 Race place  
49 Ewe said it

**Solution time: 27 mins.**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
18				19				20		
			21	22			23	24		
25	26	27					28		29	30
32							33			
34				35			36			
			37				38			
39	40	41			42	43		44	45	46
48				49				50		
51				52				53		
54				55				56		

**Yesterday's answer 11-20**



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Dan Byrd, 25; Joel McHale, 39; Sean Young, 51; Bo Derek, 54

**Happy Birthday:** It's important that you keep moving, thinking and progressing. Don't let the changes in your personal life stop you from excelling profes- sionally. Size up your situation and proceed quickly, before you miss out on something life-changing. Don't be indifferent to the offers available to you. Your numbers are 9, 13, 16, 25, 34, 44, 46

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Plan to have some fun but don't take risks. A partnership will bring out the best in you and inspire you to try things you have never done before. You will learn from experience and will excel. \*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Surprise someone you love. A partnership can take on a fresh start if you are honest about the way you feel and what your plans are for the future. Changes at home will be welcome; don't overspend. \*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Hiding in- formation from someone who cares about you will not work. A money venture that is entertaining as well as profitable can change your life forever. A partnership that has been under pressure is likely to reach its limit. \*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Try not to miss out on an event that you want to at- tend. There is a good chance you'll meet someone who can help you get ahead or who can change your life. Putting pressure on someone who owes you should not make you feel bad. It's only fair. \*\*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You'll talk with great enthusiasm and attract a lot of at- tention but be prepared for someone who will be eager to correct you if you embellish. A romantic relationship can change your status or enhance your lifestyle. Children will influence your relationship and your future. \*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** You'll be on edge and you'll make everyone around you feel nervous as well. Try to avoid se- rious talks or decisions that will cause arguments. Overreacting will be a major concern, along with overspending and overindulging. \*\*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Don't let any- one push you into making costly changes at home. Addressing what needs to be done will ensure that you are considering the pos- sibility but aren't compromising your financial position. Your thoughts should be appreciated by those involved. \*\*\*

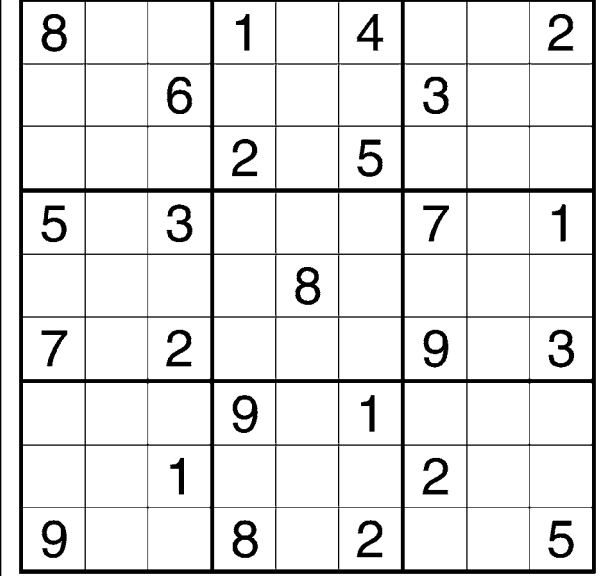
**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** You stand to prosper if you are quick to step up and take on a challenge. Offer something that you've been working on as an alternative to what's being offered. The point is, you must not sit back when action will lead to an opportunity. \*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Stick to what you know and avoid any rash moves that will affect your home or current status. Get out and have fun with friends or colleagues but avoid any family situation. Ar- guments will lead to isolation and disruption in your home environment. \*\*\*

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** A chance to change the dynamics within

SUDOKU

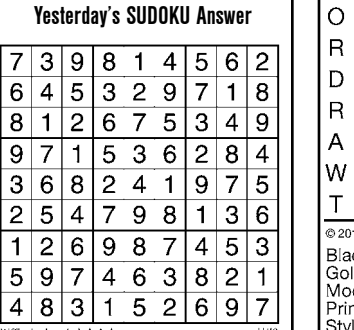
Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 11/20

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.



Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 11/20

**EUGENIA LAST**

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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your family looks good, so don't be afraid to voice your opinion. You'll be surprised by the re- sponse and the help you receive. It's your turn to step up and take over. \*\*\*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Focus on what you need to complete before the end of the year and how to make the most of what you are capable of doing. There is plenty of room to advance. Take pride in your knowl- edge; don't underestimate what you can do. \*\*

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** You can position yourself for success. Concen- trate on your best assets in order to create opportunities leading to greater prosperity. Think big and incorporate something unique that is in- spiring, unusual and serviceable. \*\*\*\*

**Birthday Baby:** You are a bit of a rebel. You go after what you want with confidence. You are outspoken and take pride in what you do.

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**WONDERWORD®** By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizon- tally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

**COOL TECHNICOLOR SHADES** Solution: 6 letters

Z M G R E D S N O I H S A F F  
Z O R O E Y E S R O O D T U O  
U D A L L T O G D E P M A T S  
B E M O K D R R W E A R N U N  
L R N C P A N O A H T O E R G  
U N A I Y T I E E N I F O E I  
E L W T H R I R E S G T N T S  
B S O L T S E C I R R E E H E  
O C L U E R U V S E G Q Y G D  
R I L M A L Y U N I Q U E I A  
D H E F S V N D Z T F A L L M  
R P Y N O I Y S E A S L K N D  
A A A O S Y A R I L N I A U N  
W R E M M I H S Y E T O S A  
T G X P R I N T S E L Y T S H

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**Yesterday's Answer: Passport**

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# Seattle ace Hernandez wins AL Cy Young



**NEW YORK** (AP)—For once, Felix Hernandez got all the support he needed for a big win.

The Seattle ace earned the AL Cy Young Award on Thursday despite a modest 13-12 record. His major league-leading 2.27 ERA and superior stats put him far ahead of Tampa Bay's David Price and the Yankees' CC Sabathia and their impressive win-loss numbers.

Victimized by the Mariners' poor hitting all season, Hernandez found ample backing with the voters in this pitchers' duel. They clearly recognized how little the last-place Mariners helped him—in 10 starts, they were either shut out or held to one run.

"This confirms the Cy Young is an award not only for the pitcher with the most wins, but the most dominant," a teary-eyed Hernandez said while celebrating with relatives at the family home in Valencia, Venezuela.

King Felix got 21 of the 28 first-place votes and 167 points in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. The 24-year-old right-hander led the league in innings (249 2-3), was second in strikeouts (232) and held AL opponents to the lowest batting average (.212).

Price, who went 19-6 with a 2.72 ERA, was second with four first-place votes and 111 points. Sabathia, who was 21-7 with a 3.18 ERA, drew the other three first-place votes and finished third at 102.

"I feel like they got it right," Price said on a conference call from Nashville, Tenn. "Felix, I thought he deserved it, even though he didn't have a lot of wins. You can't really control all that. You can't control the offense, and the hitters and stuff like that."

"The numbers he put up—those were pretty ridiculous numbers outside of the won-loss column," he said. "I feel as if Felix was on a different team—if he was on the Yankees or something like that—he's going to win quite a few ballgames."

The 13 wins by Hernandez marked the fewest for a Cy Young starter in a full season—Tim Lincecum set the re-

cord last year with 15 victories for San Francisco.

Fernando Valenzuela won the NL award in strike-shortened 1981 after going 13-7. His mark of six games over .500 had been the lowest for any Cy starter until Hernandez.

"It's not only the wins, it's the whole stats," Hernandez said.

A month after the All-Star break, Hernandez appeared to be a long shot for the award.

He was 8-10 on Aug. 15 after 26 starts, but a debate had already begun to brew about his Cy Young candidacy. Many fans who rely more traditional numbers—win-loss record for pitchers—didn't think he rated at the top of the list.

Others who count on baseball's newer math pointed at how well Hernandez had done on the things he could fully command. He led AL pitchers in a stat that matters a lot to the sabermetricians of the sport—Wins Above Replacement.

Hernandez beat Texas in his last start. Even with fewer voters focusing less on win-loss records, no telling how they would've treated him if he'd finished below .500.

Once the season ended, Hernandez started hoping.

"I didn't have the wins," he said. "But if you look at all the numbers ... wow!"

Hernandez thought he would get the Cy last year, too, after winning 19 games but finished second, beaten out by Zack Greinke's 16 victories and better showing with other numerology.

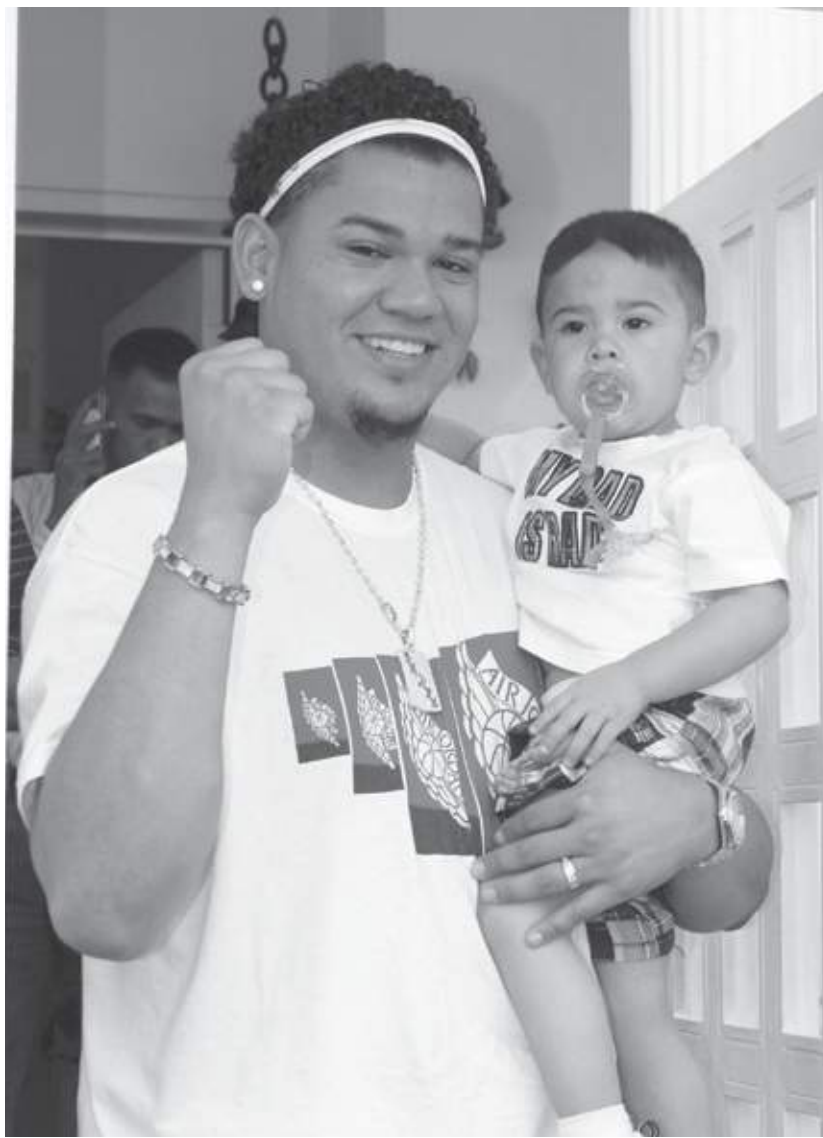
But no more sighs for Hernandez now. In the Year of the Pitcher, and in the voting for the 100th overall Cy Young Award, he came out No. 1.

"This is the first of many," he said. "Now I have to work even harder because I'm the best pitcher in the American League."

Hernandez said he started crying when he got the award and his family began jumping around.

"It was a great, great, great, amazing feeling," he said.

The Mariners finished with an AL-worst 61-101 record and their 513



Seattle Mariners pitcher Felix Hernandez, from Venezuela, holding his son Jeremy after receiving the news that he was the winner of the American League Cy Young award at his home in Valencia, Venezuela, Thursday, Nov. 18, 2010.

runs were by far the fewest in the majors. They gave him barely more than three runs to work with each game and weren't too sharp in the field, either—in his 34 starts, he got saddled with 17 unearned runs.

"They tried to do too much for me. I love my teammates," he said. "They would tell me, 'You did your job.'"

Hernandez might've ranked even higher overall had the Mariners decided not to skip his regular start on the final day of the regular season. He needed one more inning to match NL

Cy Young winner Roy Halladay for most in the majors, and he finished one strikeout behind AL leader Jered Weaver of the Angels.

Halladay unanimously won his award in a year he led the NL with 21 wins, pitched a perfect game and a no-hitter, and topped the majors in shutouts and complete games.

"Obviously, Felix's numbers are very, very impressive," Halladay said earlier this week when asked about the AL Cy Young vote. "Ultimately, you look at how guys are able to win

games. Sometimes, you find a way to win games," he said.

Hernandez said he felt vindicated that wins are only part of the equation. "This is the proof," he said.

Hernandez went 7-4 against playoff teams and was at his best against the high-scoring Yankees, going 3-0 while holding New York to one run in 26 innings with 31 strikeouts.

Sabathia and Price each led strong staffs that pitched their teams into the playoffs. Both aces went 3-2 against teams that reached the postseason. Sabathia was listed on all 28 ballots, Price on 27.

Sabathia won the 2007 Cy with Cleveland. The big lefty went 10-1 this season against Seattle, Baltimore and Kansas City, the three last-place teams in the AL.

Hernandez became the second Seattle pitcher to win the Cy Young, joining Randy Johnson in 1995. This was the third time the award went to a Venezuelan pitcher, with Johan Santana having won twice.

As for next year, "I don't have to change anything," he said.

By winning, Hernandez received an automatic \$1 million raise in salary next year to \$11 million. He also earned annual \$500,000 raises after that to \$19 million in 2012, \$20 million in 2013 and \$20.5 million in 2014.

Price received \$80,000 for finishing second. He was 12-4 when he started the All-Star game; Sabathia also made the AL team, but Hernandez did not.

"If I'm going to lose to somebody, it might as well be Felix. He's pretty good," Price said. "He was first in a lot of categories. You've got to look at everything."

"Obviously, I wanted to win. But if I didn't win I wanted to come in second. That's what happened," Price said. "I'm not mad by any means or let down. I just got beat."

Boston's Jon Lester came in fourth. Weaver got a \$50,000 bonus for finishing fifth.

The next BBWAA award will be the NL Most Valuable Player, to be announced Monday. The AL MVP will be Tuesday.



**MIAMI** (AP)—The Chicago Bears had a ready response for Brandon Marshall's taunting.

Julius Peppers and a swarming defense allowed only 187 yards and a single third-down conversion Thursday night, and the Bears won 16-0 to send the injury-ravaged Miami Dolphins to their second home shutout in 40 years.

Marshall drew an early flag for taunting when he flipped the ball at former Denver teammate Jay Cutler, standing in front of the Bears bench.

"We don't need that to fire us up," Chicago coach Lovie Smith said. "We were fired up when we stepped on the field."

Marshall also was penalized for an illegal block and dropped two passes before he left the game in the second quarter after aggravating a sore right hamstring. He wore street clothes on the sideline in the second half and didn't talk to reporters after the game.

Miami's already depleted offensive line lost center Cory Procter with a left knee injury. And with third-string

## Bears shut out Dolphins, 16-0

quarterback Tyler Thigpen taking six sacks in his first NFL start since 2008, the Dolphins were no match for a Bears defense that took over the NFL lead in points allowed per game.

"Offensively we're embarrassed what we put on the field," Thigpen said. "I put the blame on me."

Playing in Miami for the first time since losing Super Bowl 41 to Indianapolis, the Bears (7-3) won for the third time in 12 days and moved a half-game ahead of Green Bay atop the NFC North.

The Dolphins (5-5) lost at home in prime time for the third time this season. Coach Tony Sparano declined to blame injuries for the dismal showing.

"Those are excuses," he said. "I'm not going to use them. I don't want my team to use them. This is the NFL. The next guy has to step up."

Peppers had three sacks and Charles Tillman recorded an interception for

the Bears, who earned their first shutout since Nov. 19, 2006, against the Jets.

"It's nice to get a couple sacks," Peppers said. "It's even nicer to get that goose egg."

Smith had the Bears blitzing even in the final moments, when the outcome was decided.

"Coach let us keep going at the end of the game," linebacker Brian Urlacher said. "We didn't want to give up any points. Anytime you have a chance that late in the game for a shutout, you might as well try to keep it. They're really hard to get in the NFL."

The Dolphins were blanked for the first time since a 3-0 loss at Pittsburgh during their one-win season in 2007. Their only other home shutout since the first year of the Don Shula era came in 2001.

Matt Forte carried 25 times for 97 yards and a score for the Bears, who converted 10 of 18 third-down situations and controlled the ball for near-

ly 38 minutes. Cutler said the offense had an easy job.

"The way the defense is playing, we didn't have to do much," he said.

The Dolphins went 1 for 12 on third down, and a 46-yard kickoff return to start the game created their best scoring threat. They moved inside the Bears 35 for the first time on the game's final play.

Thigpen, pressed into duty after Chad Pennington and Chad Henne were hurt in Sunday's game, finished 17 for 29 for 187 yards, and he had 27 of the Dolphins' 39 yards rushing. But he found himself scrambling often and fell to 1-11 as an NFL starter.

"Offensively we couldn't get out of our own way," Thigpen said. "We would get one thing going, and then we'd get one thing to set us back."

Ronnie Brown and Ricky Williams combined for 11 yards rushing on six carries.

"We got the offense one-dimensional,"

said Urlacher, who had a sack, a tackle for a loss and a quarterback hurry.

With 2 minutes left, the crowd was down to mostly Chicago fans, and they chanted "Let's go Bears!" as the clock wound down. The chant continued after the game.

"You don't ever want to see that zero up there on the scoreboard for your team," Miami safety Jeremiah Bell said. "But that's similar to how we played tonight on both sides of the ball—flat."

Robbie Gould put Chicago ahead 9-0 by finishing three short drives with field goals, one after the Bears' NFL-best 25th takeaway this season. A 7 1/2-minute touchdown drive midway through the second half sealed the win, with Forte running 2 yards up the middle to score standing up on third down.

AFC sack leader Cameron Wake reached Cutler on third down in the opening period, which forced the Bears to settle for a 46-yard field goal.

The Bears got the ball back when Tillman intercepted a tipped pass, and Gould kicked a 24-yarder for a 6-0 lead.



# Nash sits while Magic roll past Suns



ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Jameer Nelson had 15 points and a season-high 12 assists, and the Orlando Magic easily handled a Phoenix Suns team playing without Steve Nash in a 105-89 win on Thursday night.

Dwight Howard added 20 points and 12 rebounds, and every starter scored in double digits for the Magic, who built a 32-point lead and blew past the Suns from the opening tip.

Orlando (8-3) has won three straight.

With Nash sidelined because of a sore groin, backup point guard Goran Dragic had 10 points, four assists and four rebounds.

Grant Hill scored 21 points in the lone bright spot for the Suns, who lost on consecutive nights in Florida by a combined 43 points. Phoenix (6-6) was routed by 27 a night earlier at Miami.

Suns coach Alvin Gentry said Nash probably could have played but there was no reason to push the injury this early in the season, especially with Phoenix playing its fourth game in five nights. Gentry said he expects to have Nash back in the starting lineup Saturday at Charlotte.

And could they ever have used him.

The Suns were embarrassed and exposed for the second straight night, and their flaws shined even brighter in Orlando without Nash. They had no flow offensively and played with a slow and stagnant pace that never resembled their usual up-tempo style.

Undersized and undermanned, Phoenix was forced to double-team Howard, freeing Orlando's shooters for wide-open looks. Before the first quarter even ended, the Magic made four 3-pointers—two from



Orlando Magic point guard Jameer Nelson (14) drives past Phoenix Suns power forward Earl Barron (30) for a shot during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Orlando, Fla., Thursday, Nov. 18, 2010.

Vince Carter and one each from Quentin Richardson and Mickael Pietrus—to sprint out to a 31-12 lead.

The lowlights: Dragic tripping over himself and falling to the ground after Nelson's crossover dribble; Howard roaming the paint at will; and Carter turning back the clock by swooping down the middle and double-pumping the ball in midair for a dunk over everybody.

Orlando added an exclamation point when Carter's layup just beat the first-half buzzer, putting the Magic ahead 62-34 and bringing the crowd roaring to its feet—and then out.

Almost half the crowd at the Amway Center didn't return to their seats for the second half. There really was no need. The Magic took a 32-point lead, cleared the bench and coasted the rest of the way.

## Trail Blazers 86, Nuggets 83

In Portland, Oregon, Portland rallied in the second half to edge Denver.

LaMarcus Aldridge scored 24 points and Wesley Matthews added 20 for the Blazers, who trailed by as many as nine points after halftime, but outscored Denver 17-12 during the fourth quarter to pull out the win.

Aldridge hit 9 of 20 shots and grabbed 10 rebounds during a 41-minute performance. Matthews, starting his second consecutive game in place of injured Brandon Roy, hit three consecutive 3-pointers during the second quarter.

## Pacers 107, Clippers 80

In Indianapolis, Danny Granger scored 22 points as an undermanned Indiana overwhelmed lowly Los Angeles.

Roy Hibbert had 18 points and eight rebounds, while Brandon Rush and A.J. Price each added 14 points for the Pacers, who shot 51 percent from the field to make up for the absence of starters Darren Collison and Mike Dunleavy. Collison sat out with a sprained ankle, while Dunleavy missed the game because his wife was in labor.

Indianapolis native Eric Gordon had 19 points for the Clippers.

# Some surprise: Oden out for season again

By JIM LITKE  
AP Sports Columnist



Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at [jlitke\(ar\)ap.org](mailto:jlitke(ar)ap.org)

Calling Greg Oden the unluckiest guy ever to pick up a basketball doesn't do him justice.

It doesn't get the Portland Trail Blazers off the hook, either.

Oden, we come to find out, had hip surgery as a sixth-grader that left one leg shorter than the other. That explains why even when healthy, he always seemed to be limping. He had surgery a second time to repair a torn wrist ligament as a senior in high school, pushing back the start of his college career at Ohio State by several months.

Whether the Trail Blazers overlooked those red flags or simply underestimated Oden's fragility when they made him the No. 1 pick in the 2007 draft, the template for his pro career was already set.

Oden's much-anticipated NBA debut in 2008, already delayed more than a year because of surgery on his right knee, was nearly derailed after just a handful of plays. He only missed two weeks in that instance, but hasn't played in a regular-season's worth of games since.

On Wednesday night, the Trail Blazers announced that Oden was being shut down for the third time in four years to undergo surgery on his left knee, the patella of which cracked just 20 months ago when he ran into a teammate.

Everyone agrees that Oden, a 22-year-old dedicated to his craft, deserves better. Some pointed out that Kenyon Martin returned as a solid player after similar surgeries on both knees, but he's back to being hobbled again. Others noted that Amare Stoudemire, Jason Kidd and Zach Randolph, among others, have come back from microfracture surgery on one knee and prospered.

Only time and a sea-change in luck will tell if Oden manages to do the same. What's certain is that it won't happen in Portland.

The Trail Blazers acknowledged as much even before the injury, letting a Nov. 1 contract extension deadline lapse and granting Oden unrestricted free agency this summer. In retrospect, that turned out to be a smart business decision. As long as we're looking backward, though, it's worth wondering just how well the Blazers have learned the lessons of the past.

The franchise took Bill Walton from UCLA with the No. 1 pick in 1974, then watched helplessly as a raft of breaks—nose, foot, wrist and leg—cut deeply into his playing time the first two seasons. In his third season, the Trail Blazers won it all.

The season after that, another wave of injuries forced him to the sidelines, where Walton remained the season afterward, purposefully sitting out to protest what he labeled unsatisfactory medical treatment by the Portland staff.

None of that, though, deterred the Blazers from taking Sam Bowie ahead of Michael Jordan in the 1984 draft. They have rued the day ever since. Three years ago, they judged Kevin Durant too fragile, chose Oden instead, and everyone knows how that turned out.

On Thursday, coach Nate McMillan drew the short straw and had to defend a history he had very little part in.

"When things go wrong, we as a society, we all want to find someone to point the finger at, or blame, and sometimes things just happen," McMillan said. "These injuries, each one of them, they just happened."

There's no arguing with the last part. And maybe it's coincidence, too, that just about everybody in the organization from president Larry Miller on down rushed to the defense of a medical and training staff that already has a long line of patients—beginning with franchise player Brandon Roy—suffering problems with the same joint as Oden.

Portland's trainer, Jay Jensen, said the team constantly reviews its training regimen and seeks opinions and reviews outside the organization. In Oden's case, when they saw the MRI revealing the extent of the damage, "We felt like we had been told somebody close to us had died."

Fortunately, it's not that bad.

But if Oden is ever going to have a useful life in the NBA, he should think about getting away from Portland as fast as his crutches will carry him. As for the Trail Blazers, somebody needs to take an eraser and wipe out what's left of an institutional memory still stubbornly locked in on the belief that any good big man will always be better than a good small one.

Because to prove that, he's got to be upright long and often enough so the comparison is even worth making.

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Golden State Warriors forward David Lee was released from a hospital Thursday after undergoing a second procedure on his left elbow to treat an infection.

He was released from Stanford Hospital and returned to his San Francisco home, where he will receive IVs and antibiotics and be monitored by Dr. Frank Chen. The Warriors said the redness around Lee's elbow was gone and swelling had nearly subsided. Lee's arm is in a splint for now to restrict movement as he heals.

"That's great just for the psyche of our team," first-year coach Keith Smart said after Thursday's practice. "When one of your better players, and a good guy all around, is not here ... before he gets on the

## Lee released from hospital

floor the life that he brings to the team is pretty impressive. The players love him. They all miss him. We're glad he's going to finally get a chance to start coming back around the team."

Lee initially had surgery last Friday after he cut the inside of his elbow in a nasty collision with the mouth of New York's Wilson Chandler, who left a fragment of a tooth in Lee's arm.

After Lee's elbow swelled and bled overnight, he went to an emergency room for antibiotics.

Smart isn't sure when Lee will play again, but he will be sidelined at least until early next week. Lee is scheduled

to be re-evaluated Tuesday, a day before the Warriors play at Houston to start a three-game road trip. Smart didn't expect Lee to attend Friday night's home game with the New York Knicks, Lee's former team.

"We all just want to see him," Smart said. "Once we see him and now we can love on him we can start getting him back into the package."

Lee is averaging 14.3 points, 11.3 rebounds, 2.8 assists and 34.6 minutes in eight games for Golden State so far. The Warriors acquired him in a July trade with the Knicks to give them an improved presence on offense and rebounding.

Smart has been mixing and matching to fill in during Lee's

absence because Golden State doesn't have a true backup power forward. Vladimir Radmanovic—who is 6-foot-10 with long arms and helps create spacing on the court—could earn the start against the Knicks, though Smart wasn't prepared to name his starter until Friday night.

"We're going to look at the guy who is playing well in that position," Smart said. "Everyone who's playing that position, they know what's expected and what we want from them and so we'll keep going that direction until we've locked into someone who can provide us some of the things that David can bring. They can't bring everything he does but they can still concentrate on the rebounding aspect and being heady with the basketball."



**TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES**

**NBA STANDINGS**

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**Atlantic Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	9	2	.818	—
New Jersey	4	7	.364	5
New York	4	8	.333	5 1/2
Toronto	3	9	.250	6 1/2
Philadelphia	2	10	.167	7 1/2

**Southeast Division**

Orlando	8	3	.727	—
Atlanta	8	4	.667	1/2
Miami	7	4	.636	1
Charlotte	4	7	.364	4
Washington	3	7	.300	4 1/2

**Central Division**

Chicago	6	4	.600	—
Cleveland	5	5	.500	1
Indiana	5	5	.500	1
Milwaukee	5	6	.455	1 1/2
Detroit	4	8	.333	3

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Southwest Division**

New Orleans	9	1	.900	—
San Antonio	9	1	.900	—
Dallas	7	3	.700	2
Memphis	4	8	.333	6
Houston	3	8	.273	6 1/2

**Northwest Division**

Utah	8	4	.667	—
Oklahoma City	7	4	.636	1/2
Portland	8	5	.615	1/2
Denver	6	6	.500	2
Minnesota	4	9	.308	4 1/2

**Pacific Division**

L.A. Lakers	10	2	.833	—
Golden State	7	4	.636	2 1/2
Phoenix	6	6	.500	4
Sacramento	3	7	.300	6
L.A. Clippers	1	12	.077	9 1/2

**Yesterday's Games**

Indiana 107, L.A. Clippers 80  
Orlando 105, Phoenix 89  
Portland 86, Denver 83

**NFL STANDINGS**

**AMERICAN CONFERENCE**

**East**

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Jets	7	2	0	.778	208	150
New England	7	2	0	.778	258	214
Miami	5	5	0	.500	172	208
Buffalo	1	8	0	.111	164	245

**South**

Indianapolis	6	3	0	.667	240	185
Tennessee	5	4	0	.556	241	179
Jacksonville	5	4	0	.556	196	250
Houston	4	5	0	.444	217	257

**North**

Baltimore	6	3	0	.667	196	165
Pittsburgh	6	3	0	.667	200	162
Cleveland	3	6	0	.333	172	182
Cincinnati	2	7	0	.222	184	213

**West**

Oakland	5	4	0	.556	235	188
Kansas City	5	4	0	.556	212	194
San Diego	4	5	0	.444	239	197
Denver	3	6	0	.333	203	252

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**East**

Philadelphia	6	3	0	.667	257	209
N.Y. Giants	6	3	0	.667	236	193
Washington	4	5	0	.444	183	229
Dallas	2	7	0	.222	194	252

**South**

Atlanta	7	2	0	.778	222	175
New Orleans	6	3	0	.667	201	151
Tampa Bay	6	3	0	.667	188	206
Carolina	1	8	0	.111	104	215

**North**

Chicago	7	3	0	.700	191	146
Green Bay	6	3	0	.667	221	143
Minnesota	3	6	0	.333	169	195
Detroit	2	7	0	.222	215	202

**West**

Seattle	5	4	0	.556	166	199
St. Louis	4	5	0	.444	160	164
San Francisco	3	6	0	.333	160	198
Arizona	3	6	0	.333	175	261

**Yesterday's Games**

Chicago 16, Miami 0

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Fotten Palau, Hustlers lead team 8-ball

By WALTER SUTHERLAND  
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REPORTER



USSP Fotten Palau and Utopia's Docomo Hustlers are the current frontrunners in their respective Obyan and Agingan divisions after last Tuesday's Saipan Billiards Association Budweiser Open 8-Ball League season matchups.

Four of the five visiting teams came out winners this past round.

In the Obyan division, Fotten Palau has a 47-41 win-loss mark. It boasts a six-game lead on second-ranked Who-Oah! (37-47) of D'Pirates Bar & Grill after winning a nice inter-division road-upset over Jonny's Home Boyz.

Shark Attack (36-48) of Wild Bill's Bar & Grill is seated in third place. Weekly notables include Frank Palacios of Pirates sinking the 8-ball off the break in his matchup against Shark Attack, while teammate Nong Detdon, VFW ToroKeyRee's Jimmy Wong, and Fotten Palau's Taylor Watanabe each took a turn running the table last Tuesday.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

USSP's Fotten Palau holds a slim two-game lead in the SBA Budweiser Open 8-Ball League Obyan division after pulling off a 5-2 inter-division upset on the road over Jonny's Home Boyz last Tuesday.

In Agingan play, the Hustlers have a record of 59-25 and cling to a two-game advantage over Jonny's IT&E Voyagers (57-27) with the Home Boyz (55-29) licking their wounds in third. Notably, the Hustlers' Jerry Soriano ran the table in one of his road matches against the IT&E Incridibles

out of Buddies Bar & Grill.

**Pirates 4, Shark Attack 3**

At Wild Bill's, the visiting Pirates found themselves behind by a game after singles play, 2-3, but regrouped to take both doubles matches, one by tiebreaker, for an inspiring upset win.

## MP UNITED

From Page 28

duel Independents for its last game tomorrow and even if the former wins, it could only get as much as three points and will be short of MP United's total markers. Paire holds a 5-1-2 mark.

MP United got one goal apiece from Andres Halaby and Moon Bin Hong to force an important draw against Independents.

Charles McEntee scored the pair of

goals for Independents, which is in third place in the team standings going into the final week with its 1-2-5 record.

Matansa logged at the bottom of the team standings with its 1-1-6 slate, absorbing yet another loss in Week 8 at the hands of Paire.

Paire cruised to a 7-1 victory against Matansa after drawing goals from six different players, including siblings Mason and Colin Fruit, Lim Zhi, Don Cabrera, and Joseph Li.

Meanwhile, MP United's Dae Min Jeon still leads the league in goals with eight, while Independents' McEntee is in second place with seven. Jeon's MP United teammates Yi Shan and Hong are in third and fourth places, respectively, with six and five goals.

Paire's Tawanpiy and Vincent Palacios and MP United's Lee Seoung Joon are tied for fifth with three goals apiece.

Eight strikers have scored two goals each. The list includes MP United's

**Fotten Palau 5, Home Boys 2**

At Jonny's in a much closer pairing than the final score dictates, visiting Fotten Palau won three of the five singles matches, all by tiebreakers and went on to sweep the first doubles match before taking the final doubles game tiebreaker.

**Hustlers 5, Incridibles 2**

At Buddies, the visiting Hustlers won three of the five singles matches, one by tiebreaker, and went on to sweep both doubles games to smack down the division caboose.

**Who-Oah! 5, ToroKeyRee 2**

At D' Pirates Bar & Grill, home team Who-Oah! won three of the five singles games, one by tiebreaker, for the team victory and went on to take both doubles matches, one via tiebreaker.

**Voyagers 6, Turtles 1**

At USS Peleliu Club, the visiting Voyagers had an easy day at the office and won four out of five singles games, two via tiebreaker, before going on to sweep both doubles matches.

Greg Kim, Paul Yoon, Yoon Taek Han, and Stacy Macaranas, Paire's Yong Park, Joseph Ichihara, and Mason Fruit, and Independents' David Young.

At the end of the season, NMIFA will hand out a Golden Boot award to the player with the most goals.

The awards ceremony will take place during the U18 football festival on Dec. 4 at the Oleai Sports Complez Field. At the festival, all four teams also have a chance to win a separate championship trophy in the one-day tournament.

## MANGLONA

From Page 28

primarily featuring Tinian fighters.

The night starts off with a 130-lb fly-weight match between Chen's teammate Joe Duenas, who is debuting against independent fighter Gerry Mundo (1-0).

Then a 150-lb double-debut feather-weight fight will go down between Tinian independent fighter Dennis Pua and Saipan's V.J. Pua of Marianas Elite.

Next a 130-lb bantamweight match is set between Tinian's Donald Arriola and Marianas Elite's Victor Norita (1-0).

A third Tinian versus Marianas Elite battle is listed on the card featuring

independent Tinian lightweight Peter Ayuyu (0-1) taking on P.J. Cabrera (1-0) at the 150-lb catch weight.

Then in a 210-lb heavyweight brawl, independent fighter V.J. Arriola debuts against Zalaka's Frank "The Tank" Faisao (1-0).

After the heavyweights, two Saipan versus Saipan battles take the stage, starting at 210 lbs.

Independent light heavyweight Rick "Too Slick" San Nicolas (0-11) will look for his first win against Marianas Elite first-timer John DeLeon Guerrero.

Then at 145 lbs., featherweight James Castro (1-1) of Predator Combat Team faces off with Marianas

Elite's Josh Cruz (1-1).

Just before the three headliners, Peter Cepeda (2-0) of Zeng Zung will welcome independent newcomer Eugene Wong to the ring in a 140-lb. feather-weight match. Cepeda is the second Guam-based fighter who will be coming over to represent Tinian.

Into The Jungle starts at 7pm with doors opening at 6pm. Tickets cost \$25 at the door and Saipan packages are available for \$80 double occupancy or \$100 single occupancy. The airfare, hotel stay, and tickets are all inclusive.

**Texas Hold'em Poker**

Immediately following the fights, a 50-

seat Texas Hold'em Poker tournament will cap off the night. The winner takes home \$1,500, second place \$500, third \$300, and fourth place \$150. The fifth place finisher pockets \$50.

A \$50 entry fee plus a \$5 commission must be paid before 6pm today in order to play. Availability depends on a first-come, first-serve basis; 15 alternates will be accepted. All players will start with a bank of \$2,500 in chips.

Alternates are players who get to take the place of a player who gets eliminated before the raising of the first blind level. In addition, cash games will also take place Saturday starting at 3pm.

## TOURNAMENT

From Page 28

and Sunday.

BANMI is also trying to squeeze in a women's division competition during the tournament.

"For the women's division, we are hoping to get four teams, including the

MISO champion. In the men's division, we are looking at seven to eight teams," Rangamar added.

Rangamar said BANMI is coordinating with teams for the final details of the tournament.

Expected to compete in the Tournament of Champions are the UFO caging champion MAFEFA-Ali'i Konflikt,

## DELTA

From Page 28

our contributions to each of these worthwhile efforts and add support to Rotary's annual dictionary project that provides dictionaries to all grade three children in Guam," said Richard Parsons, Delta's manager in Guam and Saipan. "Working to improve our island communities is important to my team at Delta and together we feel that enhancing children's education is a true hole-in-one."

For 2010, both tournaments will feature hole-in-one prizes of One Mil-

lion SkyMiles, courtesy of the Bank of Guam, and \$10,000 cash from IT&E.

Further, Saipan's tournament will offer a hole-in-one car prize, courtesy of Microl Corp., and a pair of tickets on Delta Air Lines to the U.S. mainland. Guam's tournament, meanwhile, will offer hole-in-one car prizes from AK Toyota and Nissan Guam, plus \$7,600 in gas and \$2,400 cash courtesy of SPPC.

Both tournaments will also feature attractive gas prizes for tournament winners, courtesy of IP&E.

For more information on sponsorship or player registration, email to es-

ter.pabunan@delta.com.

Delta Air Lines serves more than 160 million customers each year. With an industry-leading global network, Delta and the Delta Connection carriers offer service to 348 destinations in 64 countries on six continents. Headquartered in Atlanta, Delta employs more than 75,000 employees worldwide and operates a mainline fleet of more than 700 aircraft. A founding member of the SkyTeam global alliance, Delta participates in the industry's leading trans-Atlantic joint venture with Air France-KLM and Alitalia. Including

its worldwide alliance partners, Delta offers customers more than 13,000 daily flights, with hubs in Amsterdam, Atlanta, Cincinnati, Detroit, Memphis, Minneapolis-St. Paul, New York-JFK, Paris-Charles de Gaulle, Salt Lake City and Tokyo-Narita. The airline's service includes the SkyMiles frequent flier program, the world's largest airline loyalty program; the award-winning BusinessElite service; and 50 Delta Sky Clubs in airports worldwide. Customers can check in for flights, print boarding passes, check bags and review flight status at delta.com. (PR)





Nash sits while Magic  
roll past Suns

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

Seattle ace  
Hernandez wins  
AL Cy Young

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## MP United takes U18 league title

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

**M**P United Football Club saved a draw in Week 8 to clinch the championship of the boys U18 division of the 2010 NMIFA Youth Football Fall League.

MP United drew Independents Football Club, 2-0, last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex to improve to a 6-2-0 win-draw-loss record and retain the No. 1 spot in the four-team field, going into the final week of the youth league.



As per NMIFA rules, the team that finishes in the top spot after a three-round robin competition will get the league championship.

MP United will play its last game against Matansa FC tomorrow at the CPA Field and the results of the Week 9 match will no longer affect the former's standings. The eventual champion has earned 22 points, four more of second-running Paire Football Club. Paire will

See MP UNITED on Page 27



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Dae Min Jeon, seen here trying to save the ball from going out of the corner line during one of their early games in the NMIFA U18 league at the CPA Field, leads the division in goals.

### Tournament of Champions next month

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Basketball Association of Northern Mariana Islands will be holding the inaugural Tournament of Champions next month.

As the name suggests, BANMI said the tournament will feature the champion teams from the various leagues on island.

"Teams will battle for the bragging rights. We plan to do it at the end of every year and hopefully this tournament will eventually lead to an annual national championship," BANMI president Elias Rangamar said.

"Holding a national championship is one of the integral parts of BANMI's development program," Rangamar said.

He added that in the future, he hopes Tinian and Rota will send their representative to the



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Brendon Talania, seen here going for a layup, plays for UFO caging champion MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt, which is one of the invited teams to the BANMI 2010 Tournament of Champions.

Tournament of Champions.

The season-ending caging will run from Dec. 10 to 20 with the venue still to be determined. Games will be played every Monday, Wednesday, See TOURNAMENT on Page 27

### Delta to host Tournament for Children's Education



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

A golfer eyes the hole during a local tournament early this year. Golfers are expected to troop to Laolao Bay Golf Resort on Dec. 4 for the 2010 Tournament for Children's Education on Saipan.

Delta Air Lines will host the 2010 Tournament for Children's Education on Dec. 4 at Laolao Bay Golf Resort and Dec. 11 at Guam's Country Club of the Pacific.

Through these tournaments, Delta Air Lines, hole sponsors, and players generate funds to benefit children's education in the CNMI and Guam.



Given the support of sponsors and players, last year's proceeds from the Saipan tournament were used to help fund Rotary's Parade of Books and provide air transportation, in partnership with Freedom Air, for 16 CNMI students and their chaperones to participate in Guam's Island Wide Science Fair. Guam's tournament generated proceeds that were used to help fund the Bookmobile and provide backpacks and school supplies through Isla Inc. to 1,300 children on Guam.

"This year we hope to expand See DELTA on Page 27

### Manglona-Chen bout moved to main event

By WALTER SUTHERLAND  
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REPORTER



The Tinian vs. Tinian grudge match between Zeng Zung's George Manglona and Zalaka's Derick "The Gladiator" Chen has been upgraded to one of the main events in tonight's Gorilla Warfare Mixed Martial Arts "Into The Jungle" at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino.

Manglona and Chen will lock horns in the 145-lb division with both fighters entering the ring with identical 1-2 win-loss marks in their relatively young mixed martial arts careers.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Eleven fights are lined up for tonight's Gorilla Warfare Mixed Martial Arts "Into The Jungle" at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino.

Following the bout will be a Saipan-Tinian tussle featuring Saipan's "Tabi" Jay Muna of Predator Combat Team and

independent Tinian fighter "GS" Pete Sakisat in the 135-lb. weight class.

Muna is a veteran of countless MMA battles and sports a 4-10 record. He will challenge an up-and-coming bruiser in Sakisat, who has yet to taste defeat in his first two matches. The latter is one of two fighters who train in Guam that is making the trip over to Tinian specifically for Into The Jungle.

Prior to the twin main events, Trench Tech's Giovanni "Palaxi" Sablan (17-6) will square off against Marianas Elite's Maitai "The Charger" Charley (2-6) in a battle of Saipan fighters.

Eight other bouts are listed on the fight card for the evening, See MANGLONA on Page 27